

# The Agricultural Leadership Of The South

*Library Digest*  
*5/13/16*  
Some Amazing Statistics That Partially Account  
For the Present Prosperity of The Southern States.

## Estimated Aggregate Crop Values

|   | 1915            | 1914            | 1909-1913<br>Five Year Average |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Total for the South .....               | \$2,607,349,000 | \$2,290,140,000 | \$2,454,255,000                |
| Total for the rest of the Country ..... | 4,181,556,000   | 3,972,695,000   | 3,458,072,000                  |
| Total for the United States .....       | \$6,788,905,000 | \$6,262,835,000 | \$5,912,327,000                |

It will be noted that the gain in value of all crops in the United States in 1915 over 1914 was \$526,070,000. Of this gain, \$317,009,000, or a little over 60 per cent, was in the South. The gain in the entire country outside of the South was \$208,861,000, or \$108,400,000 less than the gain for the South.

The percentage of increase for the South in 1915 over 1914 was 13.85 per cent. The percentage of increase for the entire country outside of the South was only 5.25 per cent.

Despite the low value of last year's cotton crop, the value of crops in 1915 in the South was \$153,000,000 greater than the average value for the five years from 1909 to 1913, both inclusive—proof positive of an almost incredible progress in crop diversification.

The State of Texas, with the single exception of Illinois, exceeded in the value of its crops every state in the Union. Illinois surpassed Texas by only \$1,070,000; whereas Texas exceeded the wonderful agricultural state of Iowa by \$82,642,000. Georgia, a strictly cotton state, in spite of the war, exceeded the total crop value of Pennsylvania by \$1,000,000; Michigan by \$54,000,000; California by \$21,000,000.

The total value of Southern farm products in 1915, including cattle, may be conservatively put at the enormous amount of \$3,762,049,000. And the value of Southern manufactured products was millions even in excess of this figure.

*These billions of dollars of Southern income create a tremendous purchasing power for every necessity, convenience and luxury that the world can supply. If you are in a position to meet this demand in any*

**Any of the undersigned representative Southern newspapers will be glad to furnish full data concerning sales possibilities in their respective sections of the South.**

### ALABAMA

Birmingham Age-Herald  
Birmingham Ledger  
Gadsden Times-News  
Mobile Item

### FLORIDA

Jacksonville Metropolis  
Tampa Times  
Tampa Tribune

### GEORGIA

### NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville Times  
Charlotte News  
Charlotte Observer  
Durham Sun  
Greensboro News  
Raleigh News and Observer  
Raleigh Times  
Winston-Salem Sentinel

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Anderson Daily Mail  
Charleston News and Courier  
Charleston Post  
Columbia Record  
Columbia State

Greenville News  
Spartanburg Herald  
Spartanburg Journal  
TENN.  
Bristol Herald  
Chattanooga  
Nashville Tennessean

Albany Herald  
Athens Herald  
Atlanta Constitution  
Atlanta Georgian-American  
Augusta Herald  
Macon Telegraph  
Savannah Morning News  
Waycross Journal-Herald

*phase, tell the South in the most effective and economical manner—through Southern newspaper space.*



# Agriculture - 1916.

## Condition and Improvement of

# ALABAMA LAND BOOK IS READY

## FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

# AS A SPLENDID PUBLICATION

*Profusely Illustrated Book  
Tells of the History of  
Alabama, With Her In-  
exhaustable Mineral Re-  
sources, and Irresistible  
Soil Possibilities*

Alabama's Land Book, the concise description of the resources and advantages of the State, is off the press. It will be ready for general distribution the first of the week. The first edition consists of 10,000 copies, and this will be followed, as opportunity presents itself, with other editions of similar numerical size.

The publication, issued under the seal of the State of Alabama, and credited to the department of agriculture and industries, is the realization of the plans of the trustees into whose keeping and care its publication was entrusted early in the year. This board of trustees is headed by Governor Charles Henderson, its chairman. The work itself is an elaborate collaboration of many minds and hands, and was compiled and edited by Lowry W. Statler, who managed the State-wide campaign for the work.

The Land Book was gotten out under what is termed the "Farnsworth Plan," an original conception of Don Farnsworth, well known in Alabama and the South for his connection with various chambers of commerce and other business and commercial organizations in which he was assisted by Mr. Statler, Wilbur S. Lounsbury and Percy F. Morgan.

### Splendidly Illustrated

The Alabama Land Book, in pictures, figures and splendidly written articles, descriptive and prophetic, tells the story of the development and progress of Alabama to date, and forecasts its wonderful future as predicated on her inexhaustable resources and advantages, and this recital is to be the further emphasized in the Alabama Travelog, four reels of filmization of these resources, beauties and attractions, in which Henry B. Walthall, a native of the State, will be featured.

Mr. Walthall volunteers his services to make this picture and Alabama people have contributed the material on which is based the scenario to be used. This motion picture feature will be exhibited in hundreds of cities and towns in the north, west and mid-west, and will be shown to the people

of their home State—Alabama.

The Alabama Land Book primarily divides Alabama into her three great and natural sub-divisions—the Tennessee Valley, the Black Belt and the Gulf Coast Plains. Each of these natural sub-divisions is exhaustively described and elaborated, and the countless pictures, photographs and drawings make the publication not only a valuable contribution to constructive literature but a permanent example of practical perfection in the art preservation.

### Fundamental Principles.

In planning the publication of the Alabama Land Book, the agricultural department of the state has recognized fundamental principles, among the more important of which may be mentioned the timely opportunity to render a most valuable service to the land owners and agricultural interests of the state.

The publishers recognized the need of an efficient means of cooperation between all sections of the State, a need long felt by those actively interested in the development of Alabama. The need of a comprehensive plan of publicity, with the necessary follow up system, by which the man with money to invest may be reached and shown his opportunity through the state bureau of markets, is emphasized.

The book provides for an educational program in keeping with the importance of the subject and capable of meeting the urgent call for accurate and reliable information regarding Alabama land and products.

### Problems Discussed.

The fact is shown that the problems of homeseeking, land ownership, employment of capital, agricultural development and the betterment of rural life are now before the public mind and pressing for solution.

The fact is stressed that diversification of crops is now an established policy in Alabama; that skilled farmers in Alabama with capital are required to efface the old one-crop idea and realize upon the limitless opportunity for progress as compared with less favored sections.

The introductory of the publication tells of Alabama and her motto, "Here We Rest." Varied products and populations are discussed. There is a handsome picture of the State capitol, showing both wings, and also Alabama's greatest asset—little children. Farm statistics, legislation, transportation, the iron, steel and coal fields, timber and water power and dwell upon at length.

Alabama as the natural home of the pecan is shown in pictures; also the corn demonstration work. Timber is given mention, also water power, soils and labor of the State. There is a general view of the spinning room of the Coosa Manufacturing Company at Piedmont, Ala.

### Demonstration Work.

Leading crops in Alabama form one of the principal subjects. Mentioned are velvet and soy beans, peas, clover, alfalfa and other grasses, beside being the natural home of cotton and cotton seed from which is secured the very best feed for fattening bees.

Other matters that are brought out prominently in the publication are farm demonstration work, and a summary of the future, which deals in golden wheat fields, waving yellow oats, green fields of corn, Bermuda pastures, cattle, gardens and orchards.

The educational advantages of Alabama are gone into in detail, and the value of advertising also is mentioned. There are illustrations of the University of Alabama, showing practically every building. School buildings of other places, city and town, are presented, also rural educational schools. The true condition of the schools is related, and the race problem is touched upon.

Play grounds in the towns are told of in pictures, showing the "kiddie" going through gymnastic exercises.

### Modern Road Building.

Modern road building is related by W. S. Keller, State highway engineer, a man who knows the work in a most thorough manner. He shows exactly what he has accomplished in steel and concrete bridges, roads made of sand-gravel, mixed with clay, and an old road on one side in the picture gives a comparison of the improvements.

Industrial development also is treated of. Reasons for rapid growth are shown, also the natural resources and general manufacturing development. There is an exceptionally fine scene at Tuscaloosa showing the coal and iron mines, modern coke ovens, furnaces, factories and an industrial village with river and rail transportation immediately at hand.

Solid ore is shown in the brown ore region of Alabama, a forty-foot open cut of solid ore. A welcome to manufacturers is extended within the borders of the State. They are invited to make permanent homes here where their efforts will be appreciated and where conditions for success will be found favorable.

### Waterway System.

The book lays stress upon the fact that Alabama has numerous rivers which can furnish water power sites and also possibilities of water transportation, and the fact that this water power can be had cheap.

In every instance, the publication states, Alabama has advanced more rapidly than the United States, an achievement accomplished through well applied effort on the basis of a remarkable store of natural resources.

The publication is enclosed in one of the most artistic covers recently displayed anywhere. The front cover, the original design and artistic work of Frank M. Spangler, known to everybody as "Spang," The Advertiser cartoonist, is done in colors, and not only attracts the eye but rivets attention to the principle features of the publication itself.

## MADISON COUNTY IS LEADER IN COTTON PRODUCTION IN 1915

*Montgomery Close Second,  
While Dallas Drops Far  
Down in List With But  
17,900 Bales*

Madison County proved the banner cotton raising county of Alabama last year, according to the report of Director Sam L. Rogers, of the bureau of census, Department of Commerce, which was issued from Washington on Saturday. The quantities in the table are running bales, counting round as half bales, and not including the linters.

While Madison is given the premier position, with a total of 31,771 bales Montgomery County comes second with a total of 31,075 bales, less than 10 behind. Dallas County, for years the banner cotton county of the State drops far down the list with a total of but 17,900 bales. In the report for the cotton years of 1914, Dallas County had a total of 60,377 bales.

The report issued by Director Rogers is as follows:

| COUNTY.       | 1915.  | 1914.  |
|---------------|--------|--------|
| Autauga...    | 9,789  | 24,538 |
| Baldwin...    | 410    | 810    |
| Barbour...    | 26,392 | 41,469 |
| Bibb...       | 4,340  | 11,883 |
| Blount...     | 14,315 | 19,787 |
| Bullock...    | 18,977 | 31,111 |
| Butler...     | 9,341  | 28,515 |
| Calhoun...    | 20,274 | 28,223 |
| Chambers...   | 26,535 | 41,621 |
| Cherokee...   | 20,784 | 26,336 |
| Chilton...    | 13,000 | 22,454 |
| Choctaw...    | 3,072  | 4,648  |
| Clarke...     | 4,704  | 11,646 |
| Clay...       | 17,159 | 20,961 |
| Cleburne...   | 8,475  | 10,387 |
| Coffee...     | 20,414 | 38,351 |
| Colbert...    | 14,075 | 18,039 |
| Conecuh...    | 4,954  | 17,256 |
| Coosa...      | 12,465 | 18,387 |
| Covington...  | 6,771  | 33,570 |
| Crenshaw...   | 14,390 | 30,142 |
| Cullman...    | 24,904 | 33,669 |
| Dale...       | 20,677 | 31,881 |
| Dallas...     | 17,900 | 60,377 |
| DeKalb...     | 22,866 | 30,402 |
| Elmore...     | 20,457 | 33,563 |
| Escambia...   | 3,303  | 7,679  |
| Etowah...     | 12,590 | 22,588 |
| Fayette...    | 12,079 | 19,042 |
| Franklin...   | 14,967 | 19,410 |
| Geneva...     | 20,639 | 40,153 |
| Greene...     | 4,913  | 13,575 |
| Hale...       | 8,693  | 23,259 |
| Henry...      | 20,190 | 30,852 |
| Houston...    | 23,446 | 38,926 |
| Jackson...    | 13,505 | 19,919 |
| Jefferson...  | 8,166  | 12,874 |
| Lamar...      | 10,605 | 18,268 |
| Lauderdale... | 24,398 | 28,215 |

|               |        |        |
|---------------|--------|--------|
| Lawrence...   | 21,310 | 23,530 |
| Lee...        | 22,336 | 33,283 |
| Limestone...  | 25,210 | 30,509 |
| Lowndes...    | 12,313 | 39,281 |
| Macon...      | 21,382 | 36,768 |
| Madison...    | 31,771 | 43,268 |
| Maréngo...    | 12,889 | 28,507 |
| Marion...     | 14,244 | 20,133 |
| Marshall...   | 29,040 | 37,552 |
| Mobile...     | 142    | 354    |
| Monroe...     | 10,506 | 24,362 |
| Montgomery... | 31,075 | 54,898 |
| Morgan...     | 27,400 | 31,590 |
| Perry...      | 9,853  | 35,510 |
| Pickens...    | 7,304  | 18,632 |
| Pike...       | 30,004 | 44,996 |
| Randolph...   | 19,094 | 27,020 |
| Russell...    | 21,694 | 37,466 |
| St. Clair...  | 10,719 | 16,011 |
| Shelby...     | 10,749 | 16,454 |
| Sumter...     | 5,910  | 1,571  |
| Talladega...  | 30,166 | 38,297 |
| Tallapoosa... | 23,299 | 30,287 |
| Tuscaloosa... | 10,924 | 23,027 |
| Walker...     | 7,606  | 12,226 |
| Washington... | 1,096  | 2,073  |
| Wilcox...     | 8,916  | 30,700 |
| Winston...    | 9,291  | 12,652 |

Total .... 1,525,177 1,731,751

*The Savannah Daily*

It is but seldom that the journals of the opposite race, in this section especially, would go out of the way to speak commendably of what the colored man is doing of an uplifting nature. His religious life, his commercial achievements, his educational worth, etc., are seemingly a closed book to them. On the other hand all that is bad in him is greedily chronicled to the world. Race feeling would be considerably harmonized if the better side of our people's life was more generally known by those of the opposite race.

Refreshing indeed it is to note anything that is written commendably about us, and for this reason we are compelled to reprint the following from the Quitman (Ga.) Free Press, under the heading "Good Colored Farmers":

"It has been said that if all the farmers were patronizing the dipping vats as faithfully as the colored farmers of Brooks county the quarantine would be lifted in a much shorter time and at a lessening expense. The Negro figures so much in the court news and police news that it sometimes may be a wonder if the bad Negro does not get more attention in the public print than does the good Negro who is an exemplary citizen.

"In this case it is a pleasure to chronicle the progressive idea and good sense of these Brooks county farmers. There are three vats in this county which were built exclusively by Negro farmers and



are patronized by them, besides the number of Negroes who dip at the vats built by white farmers. We have already printed the fact that one vat on the Dry Lake road was built by two Negroes, Albert Bacon and Ben Little. Their neighbors were unwilling to share the expense and they put up one themselves. These two men deserve much credit for leading in such improvement work in their neighborhood.

"A business man said here that several Negro farmers appealed to him for advice in regard to the boll weevil situation. He said the Negroes wanted to keep up their end of the matter and said they needed advice as to what to do. Right here is a big proposition. Nearly half the population of the county is composed of Negroes, many of them land owners. Should there be no organized effort to get the Negroes who raised cotton into the line of raising hogs and cattle and grain? As a matter of fact every farmer, whether he is white or black, who is able to develop his farm into a money making proposition outside of cotton is worth just that much to the county.

"The good Negroes of this county who are already far ahead of most Negro communities, have laid a good foundation for such work and with a little direction and encouragement could probably do much toward getting their people in line with the new development of the country."

And again the following article, more recently published under the head of "Negro Farmers Banking Money," by the Albany (Ga.) Herald:

"An official of an Albany bank made the statement yesterday that within the last few weeks fully 300 Negro farmers had opened accounts with his bank, their deposits ranging from \$50 to \$75 for the smaller accounts to several hundred dollars for the larger ones. The number of these accounts is steadily increasing, and the amounts on deposit will be further augmented by those to whose credit the money stands.

"A canvas of the other banks of the city, as well as banks through-

out Southwest Georgia, would no doubt show a similar gratifying reflection of the present prosperous conditions in this part of the state. Hundreds of farmers who have been in debt for several years, banks or merchants or warehouse men had to "carry over" varying amounts for them season after season, have this year paid every dollar they owed, and now have money in the bank that is 'pure velvet'.

"Peculiarly gratifying is this fortunate condition of the Negro farmers. The bank official already referred to says that, among all classes of depositors, the colored farmer is least likely to draw out his money, once he has it in bank. He literally 'salts it down' against future needs, and will not check it unless forced to by circumstances to use all or part of it.

"With the certainty of a battle at close quarters with the boll weevil next year, the fact that so many colored farmers are not only out of debt, but have money laid aside for the rainy day that's coming, is most encouraging.

"It will give the farmers a big advantage when they open the fight next year. Nineteen hundred and sixteen is proving a 'fat year,' and it is coming at a most fortunate time."

These articles should not only increase the incentive of our people in these sections, but all over the state, and also other journals of the opposite race should encourage us by saying less of the bad and more of the good that is in us.

#### SOME FACTS ABOUT NEGRO FARMERS

(By Anthony Aery.)

There is now a vast number of colored farmers in the South, working millions and millions of acres rich in possibilities, and yet only a small fraction of this land is rated as improved land. According to the census of 1910, there were in the South 890,141 colored farmers (28.7 per cent. of the total number of farmers) working 42,609,117 acres (12 per cent. of the total farm acreage), of which 27,735,743 acres (or 18.4 per cent.) were reported as improved land.

Colored farmers control nearly a billion dollars' worth of land and buildings in the South, and still they control only one-eighth of the land and buildings on all the farms in the South. The value of the land and buildings under the control of the colored farmers was given at \$900,-

132,334 (12.2 per cent. of the total value of land and buildings for all farms in the south) as against \$380,280,963 (11.6 per cent.) for 1900.

That the Negro farmer is going forward by leaps and bounds in the possession and control of property, however, is clearly shown by the census figures of 1900 and 1910. Even where the Negro has many disadvantages to face he is making progress.

The 218,467 colored farm owners in 1910 held land and buildings valued at \$272,992,238 (4.8 per cent.) as against \$106,619,328 (3.7 per cent.) in 1900. The owners were distributed as follows: South Atlantic States, 101,961; east south central, 58,737; west south central, 57,769.

As long as the colored tenant farmers, however, outnumber the colored farm owners three to one and as long as the tenant farmers have under their control a proportional amount of land and buildings which they may use wisely and well or utterly abuse through sheer ignorance the tenant problem and, indeed, the whole land problem for the white South will be a pressing and serious one.

The 670,474 colored tenant farmers in 1910 tilled 26,567,802 acres, of which 20,096,375 were reported as improved land. These tenants were using land and buildings valued at \$616,768,147 (8.4 per cent.) as against \$268,177,330 (8.2 per cent.) in 1900. These colored tenants were distributed as follows: South Atlantic States, 253,181; east south central, 266,232; west south central, 151,061.

If the Negro tenant is not taught how to treat the land properly and increase his earning power the whole South will suffer a tremendous economic loss. When more than 75 per cent. of the Negro farmers are tenants there is important work still to be done along agricultural lines through the public schools, the private institutions, the state departments of agriculture and the press to help the tenants raise themselves into the class of owners. This improvement for many, many white farmers has already come about. If the South is to make the progress it should there are still too many white tenants as compared with white farm owners.

One of the most hopeful signs of progress, however, is the percentile increase in Negro farmers, the amount of improved land held by them and the value of land and buildings they control. In the South, according to the census of 1910, 24.5 per cent. of the colored farmers were owners, 0.1 per cent managers and 75.3 per cent tenants. For 1900 the figures were 25.2, 0.2 and 74.6 respectively. In 1910 the white farmers of the South were distributed as follows: Owners, 60.1 per cent; managers, 0.7; tenants, 39.2. For 1900 the figures were 63 per cent., 0.9 and 36.1 respectively.

The total number of Negro farm

operators in the South in 1910 was 880,837, and in 1900 it was 732,362. From 1900 to 1910 the percentages of increase in the South were: Total white farmers, 174; colored farmers, 20.2; white farm owners, 12; colored 17; white tenants, 27.6; colored, 21.4; improved land in farms, white, 19.5; colored, 19.5; improved land in farms owned by white farmers, 13.8; colored, 25; improved land in farms of white tenants, 34.6; colored, 17.8.

In Virginia, according to the census of 1910, there were 134,155 native white farmers who had 17,257,416 acres of land in farms and 48,114 Negroes and other non-white farmers who had 2,238,220 acres of land in farms. There were 101,436 (74.6 per cent) farms operated by white owners and 32,228 (67 per cent.) farms operated by colored owners. The value of land and buildings of all the white farmers was \$486,833,558 and that of all the colored farmers \$45,224,504. The white farm owners had land and buildings valued at \$374,781,761 and the colored farm owners \$28,059,534. The value of domestic animals was: White, \$63,941,310; colored, \$9,251,533.

# MOHAWK

## The WINS HONORS AGAIN.

Frank R. Willis, New York breeder to introduce the Cornish to Kentuckians hereabouts won the



best honors again this week at the Kentucky State Fair. In a class equal to the big New York Shows of 1915 in numbers. Mr. Willis' winnings are as follows:

First Cock,  
Second Cock,  
First Hen,  
Second Hen,  
Third Hen,  
Fourth Hen,  
Fifth Hen.

Third Cockerel.  
Stock from eggs of Mr. Willis' won:  
First and Fourth Pullet.  
First and Four Cockerel.  
First and Second Pen.  
Mohawk, the 1915 champion, was first. His son, Standing Bear III, was second. Lace-Wing, Feather-Fleece and Peggy-Proud Foot won honors of first, second and third in class of hens.

The other winners were:  
Mrs. M. English, Prospect, Ky., First Cockerel.  
Mr. H. L. Hickman, Fern Creek, First Pullet.  
Mr. B. A. Atherton, Shepherds-ville, Ky., First Pen.  
Miss Mary Stalling, 1033 South Preston street, Second Pen.  
In the White Cornish Class the winners were:  
Miss S. C. Beck, Rockland, Ky., First Cock, First Hen, First Pullet, and First Cockerel.  
Jerry N. Winton, 615 East Jacob street, Second Hen and Second Cock.

Miss Mary Stalling, Second Pullet.

### NEGRO POULTRYMAN WINS COVETED PRIZE

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—A prize coveted by poultry men of all nations was won by Frank R. Willis, a Negro of this city, engaged in business as a contracting painter, who showed at the Kentucky State Fair a chicken of the Dark Cornish breed weighting fourteen pounds.

The heaviest Cornish chicken prior to the showing of Mr. Willis' bird weighed twelve pounds, and weight contests had been held at Boston, New York, Hagerstown and at the Dairy Show, London, England. At the Kentucky State Fair 2,800 fowls were on exhibition, the best breeders in the country having pens of chickens on exhibition. "Mohawk," the Cornish entered by Willis, was two and one-half pounds heavier than any bird in the contest.

The palatableness of the Dark Cornish as a table meat has caused the breeders to strive to produce birds equal in weight to the turkey. The fowl's symmetry of form and beautiful plumage make it a striking ornament to the chicken yard. Mr. Willis is a member of the American Cornish Club, composed of American and English breeders, and will have a large exhibit of birds at the 1916 Kentucky State Fair, which is held this month.

### WINS COTTON PRIZE

Kingfisher, Okla., Nov. 3.—John Yarborough, a farmer living seven miles from here, won first prize Saturday for the largest bale of cotton brought to town on that day. His load was drawn by six horses and weighed 5,155 pounds and was bought by the Coyle Gin Co. for \$6.20 per hundred in the seed, netting Yarborough a neat sum of \$319.61, besides the \$15 prize given him by white merchants. Second prize of \$6 was won by a white farmer with 1,625 pounds.



# Agriculture - 1916

## Conditions and Improvement of VISIT PROSPEROUS

### MILLEN, GA. FARMER

*Savannah Tribune*  
About two weeks ago a party consisting of President L. E. Williams of the Wage Earners Savings Bank, Cashier R. A. Harper of the same, Mr. T. M. Holly, Mr. R. T. Spencer and a Tribune representative, made an auto trip to Millen, via Springfield and Sylvania. From Millen the Sardis road was taken to the large farm of Mr. Ross Spence about five miles from Millen. Mr. Spence is the brother of Mr. R. T. Spencer of this city, and is one of the largest farmers in Jenkins county, regardless of race. His farm covers many hundred acres. In order to give a slight idea of it, the line begins at the public road, and his home is situated more than a mile from this road and at that the home is not in the center of the farm.

children, all actively engaged in farming. Gathered around Mr. Spence are his ing. A number of acres is allotted to one of his sons, Mr. Robert Spence another part to Mr. Cornelius Spencer and to Mr. Mayfield Carpenter, the husband of one of his daughters. They raise about the best crops in that section, and Mr. Spence especially lives at home. His barn, meat and supply houses are well filled with provisions. The only articles generally purchased by him are coffee, tea and clothing. He has a spacious home comfortable and attractively arranged. The party will ever remember the dining table laden with good things which were greatly enjoyed. Mrs. Spence was tireless in her efforts to make the short stay pleasant and to see that the repast was enjoyed. In this she was joined by her daughters, Mrs. Nancy Carpenter, Misses Lena, Mary and Alice Spence. This is indeed a happy home, and shows what can be secured through thrift and right living. Mr. Spence stands well in his community and is highly respected by all classes of neighbors. With his quaint humor he kept away all dull cares from his visitors.

It was with regret that the party left this home, but with memories ever pleasant.

In making the trip four counties were entered. The Effingham county roads were the worst of them all. Jenkins county had the best. The only mishap of the entire trip was a small puncture.

### Levi Kirkland of Westville, S. C., Dead.

WESTVILLE, S. C.—Levi Kirkland, an honorable and respected citizen of Westville, S. C., died at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, March 1, at his home. He passed away quietly while his children and grandchildren assembled at the bedside. Mr. Kirkland's death was not unexpected, for his health had been very poor for about a year, and since last September he was confined to his bed. Mrs. Kirkland, the wife and mother, died last June. *The New York Times*

Mr. Kirkland was born in Kershaw County in 1845, just a few miles west of where he lived when the end came. He was born a slave and was owned by his father until after the war. After freedom he started life for himself with nothing but a will to accomplish something in the world. God blessed him with health and ability to grasp every passing opportunity, and it is said at his death he was worth more than one hundred thousand dollars. After deeding plantations to each of his five children, and one each to three sets of grandchildren, there still remain a half dozen more to be divided. One among the largest of his plantations contained fourteen hundred and seventy acres, which tract was deeded to his son, G. C. Kirkland. The life of this great man should be an inspiration to all ambitious young men who are determined to succeed in life regardless of obstacles.

The funeral services were held at 11 o'clock Thursday morning at the A. M. E. Z. Church of Westville, of which Mr. Kirkland was a member. The pastor, the Rev. J. W. Massey, officiated. The Rev. J. W. Boykin of Camden, the Rev. J. Duren of the Flat Rock section, O. B. Drakeford, a merchant of Kershaw, and Dr. W. L. McDowell (white) of Kershaw all spoke with earnestness and deep feeling of Mr. Kirkland's inestimable value to his community as a citizen, the state, the county, the schools and churches around his plantations and the county. They spoke of him as a neighbor and business man. Dr. W. L. McDowell, a prominent physician of Kershaw, S. C., spoke of the intimate friendship that existed between himself and the deceased. Dr. McDowell said he had repeatedly appealed to Mr. Kirkland for favors in a business way and had never been turned away; stated that Mr. Kirkland granted all favors he asked of him save selling land. Mr. Kirkland would not sell land to anybody. A large number of white citizens witnessed the funeral services and expressed words of

sympathy for the bereaved family.

Mr. Kirkland is survived by five children as follows: Mrs. M. B. James of Westville, S. C.; Mrs. I. S. Levy of Columbia, S. C.; Miss Della Kirkland, G. C. Kirkland and Miss Manolia Kirkland of Westville. *3/16/16.*

### MOBILIANS HEAR FARM LECTURE BY MRS. G. H. MATHIS

### County to Hold Tick Eradication Election March 15

(Special to The Advertiser)  
MOBILE, ALA., Feb. 24.—An event which attracted to Mobile tonight a large number of people from the country was the lecture by Mrs. G. H. Mathis of Gadsden, the Etowah county woman farmer who made a success at tilling the soil. Mrs. Mathis was here the past year with the International Harvester Company's diversification campaigners and was heard in Mobile and at several points in the county. Her success as a farmer proved an addition to her already attractive drawing powers and it was because of this that a large audience was on hand tonight. Mrs. Mathis is here under the auspices of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce.

Wednesday, March 15, has been designated by the board of revenue and road commissioners as the date for holding the election in Mobile county on the question of compulsory tick eradication. The election was brought about through the energetic and persistent efforts of the Mobile County Tick Eradication Association. The organization was effected by Col. R. V. Taylor, vice president and general manager of the Mobile and Ohio railroad, George H. Kilmer and a number of other Mobilians, assisted materially by George A. Maloney, the county farm demonstration agent. Judge Price Williams of the probate court has issued the legal call for the election and it is predicted that compulsory dipping will obtain at the polls.

Every indication points to success of the Get-a-Factory-Every-Month movement of the Chamber of Commerce, recently decided on under the new regime and which was given so much encouragement at the meeting on Monday night of the general membership in the Cawthon hotel. The first factory is to be a creamery and a strong committee has begun canvassing for subscriptions. It is meeting with much encouragement.

### Mrs. Mathis to Speak at Troy on Feb. 22

(Special to The Advertiser.)  
TROY, ALA., Feb. 17.—Mrs. G. H. Mathis, in the farm promotion work, will speak here Tuesday, Washington's birthday anniversary at ten o'clock in the interest of better farming. She will speak on farming conditions and especially the fight against the weevil and proper reduction of the acreage, touching upon the economic condition of the farm.

### A SUCCESSFUL DAIRYMAN

Mr. Lawrence Work, of Oxford, Kansas, owns and operates a very successful dairy. He has recently installed a patent milking machine which has greatly improved the methods in his establishment. The State Inspector classifies Mr. Work's dairy as the most sanitary in the State of Kansas. Mr. Work is a brother of Mr. Monroe N. Work.

*St. Joseph Mo.*  
**PRESS**  
APR  
THE NEGRO AND LAND.

Orators with well-oiled tongues are fond of saying that no race in the history of the world has shown such progress since its emancipation as has the negro. Negro orators especially show a tendency to aeroplane into such extreme heights of laudation. It isn't true, however. The Japanese have made much greater strides since the visit of Commodore Perry to their shut-in empire.

But it is pointed out that negroes have acquired more than 20,000 farms in South Carolina. This is a remarkable record, yet it loses some of its impressiveness when one realizes that more than two-thirds of the land of South Carolina is still not being cultivated. Hundreds of thousands of productive acres may be had at extremely low prices. Any negro who can come into possession of from \$200 to \$300 can acquire forty acres, the average negro holding. In spite of manifest injustices that have been perpetrated against the negro race, it enjoys worthy economic advantages in the South that are being taken advantage of, to the benefit of the black men and the South at the same time. The good, orderly, industrious negro is not molested in the South any more than in the North.

### POTATO KING HERE

*Chicago Defender*  
Scott Bond, Who Shipped Fifty-nine Carloads of Potatoes to Chicago in One Season, Attending Cement Show.

Mr. Scott Bond, Madison, Ark., known as the "lord and master" potato grower, is in the city attending the cement show at the Coliseum. He is stopping at the Wabash Avenue Association. He is a man of medium weight, not over 110 pounds. He is very entertaining. Mr. Bond was a great friend to Booker T. Washington and the noted educator visited his farm. Speaking to a Defender reporter, he said:

"Several years ago when potatoes were

selling high, I shipped fifty-nine carloads of potatoes to this city. The largest lot sent that year. When cotton went up I put my farm in cotton and alfalfa. The members of the race who are on the farms in Arkansas are progressing nicely. There is the happiest place on earth to be if you want to work—want to really enjoy life. With the wonderful improvements of science, farm life is not a burden but a luxury. The reason I am here to see the cement show is to find out just what I can learn that will be helpful to our farm."

### TEACHING THE NEGROES

*MAISON, PA.*  
JUL 8 - 1916

Mass Meetings Being Held in Houston County for Their Benefit.

FORT VALLEY, July 7.—Under the auspices of the United States department of agriculture, a farmers' mass meeting for the negro people of this section has been held.

Prof. Redding Howard, farm demonstrating agent of Houston county, and Prof. H. A. Hunt, principal of the Fort Valley High and Industrial school, were the leading speakers of the day. They spoke to the large crowd on the necessity of co-operation with their fellow farmers if they desired success to any great extent.

The largest crowd that ever attended a farmers' rally was at this meeting. The next rally will be held in Fort Valley and will take place on the first Wednesday in August. The white people commend the work of the negroes.

### Says Georgia Farmers Have Started Raising Live Stock "Backwards"

Moultrie, Ga., December 16.—(Special.)—That the majority of Georgia farmers who have gone into the live stock industry have done so "backwards," was the statement made yesterday by John R. Fain, of the state college of agriculture, in an address before the Colquitt County Livestock association. Instead of first producing an abundance of cheap feeds and then securing the live stock, a majority of the farmers have first bought live stock and consequently are having very indifferent success in the industry.

Dr. Fain asserted that every man should plan his farm along definite lines and plant only such crops as fit into his general farm scheme, as if he were building a house. This, he explained, means that the acreage is to be divided into certain crops and these



rotated on the lands, year by year. If live stock is to be included a definite idea of the amount of feeds necessary must be had and a well defined effort made to produce these feeds in abundance and as cheaply as possible, Dr. Fain asserted.

## FARMER SELLS MELONS

### THE YEAR 'ROUND

*Chicago Defender*  
Natchez, Miss., Jan. 28.—Lyman Hellman, a race farmer who lives a few miles from here, has discovered a way to preserve watermelons so that they are ready for the market in February or other winter months as well as August. He says that it is as easy to keep them as it is potatoes. Last week he brought a wagon load of melons in town and started selling them. Everyone thought it was a joke, but the melons went. 1129 111

## GETS \$450 FOR BALE

### OF SEA ISLAND COTTON

Moultrie, Ga., November 14.—(Special.)—John Patterson, a negro farmer of Colquitt county, yesterday sold a bale of sea island cotton and the seed from it for the sum of \$450. He received 50 cents a pound for the cotton. The bale weighed 796 pounds and the staple alone brought \$395. This is by far the highest price that a bale of cotton ever sold for on the local market. The sea island crop of the county was unusually good this year and the growers of it are so pleased with the fabulous price they have received for it that it is believed the acreage in long staple will be greatly increased next year, despite the fact that the government experts say that it is liked better by the boll weevil than short cotton. 1115-11

## Winners from the Soil

### COLORED FARMERS WHO HAVE

#### POSSESSED THE LAND

*Negro Farmer + Messenger*  
The following is clipped from the Philadelphia Public Ledger. 3/25/16

#### SUCCESS OF "DUNK" MCLAURIN

Major Moton, Becker Washington's Successor, Tells of "Dunk" and other Negroes

To the Editor of Public Ledger:

Sir:—Monroe A. Work, who has charge of the Bureau of Research at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has provided me with the following information about "Dunk" McLaurin, a successful North Carolina farmer.

The success of "Dunk" McLaurin in selling \$300 worth of cotton and having 12 bales left, to have been able to pay all of his debts and besides have on hand wheat, corn, peas, potatoes, hay and meal, is a worthy example for all Negro farmers. McLaurin's success is the sort of success which, I am pleased to say, many other Negro farm-

ers are making.

I was very much interested recently to note an account of another North Carolina Negro farmer, of whom the Charlotte Observer of that State said:

"Some of the most enterprising farmers in the State are colored men, and it is characteristic of them that when they once establish a record they hold to it. Such is the case with G. W. Kistler, a colored farmer of Cumberland County. For a number of years he has been the seller of the first bale of new cotton on the Fayetteville market, and he has just repeated the performance for the present season. Should Kistler ever lose the record, the Observer would confess to disappointment. The Negro who holds a record in any line for good endeavor deserves the encouragement of his white neighbors and friends, and generally has it—at least that is the sentiment in this section of the State."

Among the Negroes who are making success as farmers I might mention N. H. Jeltz, who farms near Abbeville, Kan., and is reported to have harvested 6000 bushels of wheat the last year and to have sold 4000 bushels of the same at \$1.20 per bushel.

B. General, said to be the largest Negro farmer in South Carolina and to own 1700 acres of land, at one time during the last year sold for \$5000 105 bales of cotton, which was a part of his 1914 crop.

Another successful Negro farmer, whom the readers of the Public Ledger will no doubt be interested to know about is Bartow Powell, of Albany, Ga., who is the wealthiest and most extensive Negro farmer in Georgia. He owns about 10,000 acres of land. He has on his plantations 90 families. To carry on his farming operations Powell uses 100 mules and 15 horses. In addition to large quantities of grains and cereals, he raises each year from 900

to 1000 bales of cotton. At one time last year he sold at 8c. per pound 864 bales of cotton which he had left from his 1914 crop and for which he received \$35,000. For 24 years Powell held the Government contract for improving the Flint River. He began as a cabin boy on the boat engaged in dredging this river and by diligence rose to be the contractor. He invested his money in farming and timber lands along the banks of the Flint River, and in this way acquired most of his holdings. It is said that \$300,000 is a conservative estimate of his wealth.

At the Mississippi-Alabama Fair, held at Meridian, Miss., a Negro farmer of Marion, Miss., by the name of Johnson won six prizes for fine hogs.

At the Mississippi-Alabama Fair, held at Meridian, Miss., a Negro farmer of Marion, Miss., by the name of Johnson won six prizes for fine hogs.

The champion corn grower of Missouri is a Negro, N. C. Bruce, principal of the Bartlette Industrial School for Negroes at Dalton, Mo. Bruce's corn won the State sweepstake prize for the highest yield of corn on upland soil. In 1915 the Governor of Missouri sent Bruce to represent the State at the Universal Corn Exposition at San Francisco. The Panama Exposition awarded Bruce a medal for the finest quality of corn shown and for the largest yield per acre. He received \$2,000 in cash premiums.

These Negro farmers which I have mentioned are examples of thousands of Negro farmers throughout the South who, by their industry and thrift, have laid the foundation and made possible the great progress which the Negroes have made in the last 50 years. They



# The Building of a New South

Adventurer

(By Clement S. Ucker, Vice-President of Southern Settlement and Development Organization, Baltimore, Md.)

The building of a new South depends primarily upon two things: First, the livestock industry of the South must be put upon its feet. Second, the South must solve its problems by united effort on the part of all States and all agencies, and concertedly must place its advantages and its claims before the world. Then, and not until then, will millions of acres of virgin soil come into its rightful heritage and the Southern States take their place in the ranks of the great agricultural States of the Union.

Like Gaul in the days of Caesar, the South is physically divided into three parts. These are the coastal plain, the Piedmont section and the mountain region. The coastal plain may be separated from the Piedmont section by drawing a line from Baltimore to Washington, thence to Richmond, to Raleigh, to Columbia, to Augusta, to a point just south of Atlanta, to Montgomery, Ala., thence sharply northward. The territory west of Alabama is of course included in the Mississippi Valley. The Piedmont section extends from the line mentioned to the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains and the foothills of the Appalachian Range. The mountain region is largely covered with timber. It is mostly utilized for grazing purposes, with some agricultural activities in the valleys. Its wealth depends largely upon grazing, upon the development of its water power, upon its forestry and upon the exploitation of its mineral resources. Reforestation and regulated grazing will play a large part in its future welfare. Reforestation will be somewhat assisted by the act known as the Weems bill, which provides for the acquisition of areas for forestry purposes by the Federal government under the avowed intention of preserving the headwaters of navigable streams.

Of the three divisions the Piedmont section has acquired the greatest amount of civilization and activity. It is a land of small plantations. It is land largely given over to one crop—cotton. It is a land whose soil has been badly depleted and which is fast passing under the tenant system.

Generally speaking the great coastal plain was avoided by the early settler. It extends from a trifle south of Norfolk, Va., along the coast to western Alabama. It embraces southern Alabama, Florida, southern Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina, and portions of eastern Virginia. It is comparatively level, has sandy soil, possesses great latent possibilities, is capable of high development and is greatly misunderstood. Following the civil war its vast forests of long-leaf yellow pine were exploited for naval stores and lumber. The seat of this industry was originally at Norfolk; then it gradually made its way southward and was successively located at Wilmington, Charleston and Savannah. It is now at Jackson-

ville, Fla.; in time it will pass to Mobile, New Orleans and Galveston.

The exploiter bought the timber and accepted the acre as the unit of measure. In those days the land had no value. Today new court houses, new school houses, permanent highways and other improvements made by progressive counties are paid for by the land owners. Taxes are going up and the tax payers are awakening to the fact that some beneficial use must be found for the cut-over land. Unless they find purchasers, unless they attract settlers in sufficient numbers, the land must pass to the State for taxes. To find buyers is difficult, because speculators have boosted the price as high as present conditions will permit, and the land offers no speculative opportunity. Yet it is out of this region that comes the insistent call for the settler. It is in this comparatively virgin region that the great new South will be built. For not only is it capable of great development, but it is the only remaining comparatively unrestricted acreage of virgin land in America that may be purchased at \$5 or \$10 an acre.

Only two uses have ever been made of this land—grazing cattle and the growing of timber. An immemorial custom of the squatter, handed down from father to son for generations, has been to range his cattle in the open pine woods. The squatter may have owned forty acres of land or he may not have owned an acre, but he did own from 30,000 to 40,000 head of cattle—cattle that were inbred, wild, quarantined with the Texas fever cattle tick. Every pound of meat was to him clear profit, however, and he looked upon the eradication of the cattle tick as the end of his privilege of free and unrestricted range, a privilege so long exercised as to be considered almost an inalienable right. As for the owner of the land, his concern had only to do with the timber and the naval stores. In no other respect had he use for the land.

Every man who seriously considers the problems of the South must conclude that the three fundamental necessities for a successful agriculture are education, diversified farming and immigration. Diversified farming goes hand in hand with education, and education includes both educating the Southern people to realize the needs of the South and to know the methods of bringing about better conditions, and educating those outside the Southern area to understand and appreciate the possibilities and the advantages of the South.

The livestock industry is the foundation of diversified farming and livestock cannot be successfully or profitably raised so long as the Texas fever cattle tick is permitted to exist. The elimination of the cattle tick means the immigration of the men who have steadfastly remained away—the men from the great Midwest West who have made a success of cattle raising and diversified farming.

When the Southern man has been taught

to know his defects and his shortcomings and to appreciate his advantages, when he learns how to put his house in order and to welcome, assist and labor with the new settler from other States, and when the latter learns to forget his prejudices and to appreciate the South and its opportunities, then will the problem of colonization largely solve itself.

All agencies in the South must join together in carrying out this work. It is a gigantic task and cannot be done by any single agency. For the past thirty years one organization after another—the railroads, the land companies, the real estate men—have tried it in their own way and to a limited extent at some place and at some time. These efforts have met with varying degrees of success, but not once have they been lastingly successful.

The first step must be the eradication of the cattle tick, so that livestock raising may become profitable and diversified farming a fact. The next step must be the awakening of a just interest in the South through the proper diffusion of correct information concerning the South. Once this is done, the problem of settling and developing the South will solve itself.

(Reproduced by courtesy of The Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, from the August 17 issue of that journal.)

## A FARM-BOY'S RECORD.

In an editorial on "What One Boy Did" for himself, for his county and his state on the line of industrial achievement—The Houston Post says that this particular boy has set a standard, not only for other boys with ambition to excel, but "has made for himself a name that will last longer than the fame of many men more prominent in the life of the state."

He is a Texas farm boy, and it is explained that at the age of 14 he was "practically without schooling;" but for all that, within the space of three years he made his way to the front, and this, in brief, is his story:

He became a member of the boys' corn club. For three years he followed directions faithfully. Twice he took the prize at the county fair. Once he took the prize at the Waco cotton palace. His corn was the best there was. He sold his surplus at a high price. Last year he was awarded a trip to the Agricultural and Mechanical college. He enrolled in the Farmers' short course. He studied hard and he learned much. His work attracted the attention of a man with a big farm. The boy was employed to select seed corn from a field of 115 acres. The work was satisfactory. The boy was permanently employed at a good salary to take charge of seed breeding work. He will plant 400 acres to corn next year—and it will be corn that will show what Texas can do. At the age of 18 Morris Leslie has a responsible position at a good salary—and is in line for promotion.

The accomplishment of this Texas lad

has been widely advertised and commented on, for the encouragement of the farm boys of the country; and among other enlightening lessons to be gathered from it, our Houston contemporary says the one which stands out best and brightest is this:

In farming there is no overcrowding. There is room at the top—but unlike other professions, there is plenty of room all the way to the top. The boy who will work earnestly and conscientiously can make a living on the farm from the first day. And he can make a fortune in a few years.

The opportunity the farm offers to the boy with the grit to "get there" was never better expressed than in the words: "There is plenty of room all the way to the top!"

## FARM LANDS OF THE SOUTH.

Farm lands in the United States have increased 25.7 per cent. in value in the past 10 years.

Farms lands have increased 11.5 per cent. in value in the past year.

According to our way of thinking this is the most vital economic fact recorded in this country at that time. In the face of a widely diffused increase in our national wealth, through our farm lands, the advance in the price of gasoline, which has attracted so much attention, is of small importance, the increase in the price of white paper is inconsequential, and even the advance in the price of certain necessities of life are not of national significance.

Figures quoted here are from the Census Bureau; they are as reliable and as accurate as human endeavor can make them. They show that the value of farm lands without improvements is estimated at \$45.50 an acre as compared with only \$40.85, a year ago. These increases have been general with the notable exception of a few states of the northwest.

A gratifying fact, established by the figures, is that the Southern States are leading in the advance of land values. Still pride in this fact is tempered by the knowledge that there is more room for increase in land values in the South than in any other section of the common country. The percentage of increase for one year is, in the South Atlantic States, .19 and South Central States 12.

The Census Bureau says, "The exceptional increases of last year are attributed in part to the reaction in the South following last year's temporary depression and the stimulus of war prices, particularly of grain."

Our people should keep this fact clear in their plans, and purposes; the lands of the South are increasing rapidly in spite of the boll weevil and they will continue to increase. This increase will be the first basis of our new prosperity.



# The South's Amazing Agricultural Wealth

Manufacturers Record.

The total value of the South's agricultural products, including animal products in 1916 was over \$4,650,000,000, or only 8 per cent less than the total for the United States in 1910, which was \$5,009,000,000. The South's population is about 35,000,000; the population of the United States in 1900 was 75,900,000.

The total value of the South's crops, omitting livestock, in 1916 was \$3,658,302,000, a gain of \$1,072,280,000 over the \$2,586,022,000 value of 1915. This was a gain of 41.4 per cent.

This value was made up as follows:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Cotton .....   | \$1,079,598,000 |
| Cottonseed .....   | 278,233,000     |
| Total for cotton .....   | \$1,357,831,000 |
| Corn .....   | \$ 919,593,000  |
| Wheat .....  | 212,346,000     |
| Oats .....   | 111,243,000     |
| Rice and other grains .....  | 40,187,000      |
| Total grain .....  | \$1,283,369,000 |
| Hay (cultivated) .....   | \$ 178,387,000  |
| Tobacco .....  | 127,426,000     |
| Potatoes, white .....  | 81,475,000      |
| Potatoes, sweet .....  | 53,206,000      |
| Hay, tobacco and potatoes ..   | \$ 440,494,000  |
| Livestock products (over) .....  | \$1,000,000,000 |
| Miscellaneous crop of diversified agriculture, fruits, vegetables, etc. .... | 568,306,000     |

Grand total of South's agricultural products for 1916 .... \$4,650,000,000

The value of crops of all other sections than the South was \$5,276,285,000, or a gain of 26.3 per cent over the value of \$4,182,576,000 in 1915, as compared with the South's gain of 41.4 per cent.

The South's crops, this section having one-third of the country's population, gained in value \$1,072,280,000, or almost exactly one-half of the total gain of the whole country, which was \$2,165,989,000.

Nearly 41 per cent of the entire crop value of the United States in 1916 was produced in the South, notwithstanding the very high prices the Western farmers received for their grain.

This crop value of the South exceeds by nearly one hundred million dollars the crop value of the United States in 1902, and is only 10 per cent less than the crop value of the whole country in 1905.

Exact statistics as to the value of animal products for 1916 by States are not yet available, but the total for the country was \$4,338,431,850, and as the South annually has about one-third of livestock, this would give to the South over \$1,000,000,000 for livestock for 1916, which added to crop values give a total of \$4,650,000,000 for the South's agricultural products for 1916—a truly amazing showing indicative of what the future is to show in this section.

The value of the South's cotton crop of 1916, including seed, was \$1,357,831,000, as given by the United States Department of Agriculture. The total value of all diversified farm products was \$3,292,189,000. Not-

withstanding the high prices paid for cotton, the value of that crop was less than 30 per cent of the total of the South's agricultural income last year, and was but little more than the value of the South's grain crop alone. The South brought over from previous crops about \$300,000,000 of cotton, which will be marketed during the crop year, thus still further adding to the agriculture income of this section.

The total value of all crops (which does not include livestock products), for 1916 and 1915, based on prices ruling on the farms on December 1, as estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture, was as follows:

| Estimated Value of All Crops on Basis of December 1 Prices By United States Department of Agriculture. |                 |                 |                 |  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
|  | 1916.           | 1915.           | 1914.           |  |
| Ala. ....  | \$ 158,469,000  | 158,260,000     | 152,340,000     |  |
| Ark. ....  | 250,511,000     | 147,704,000     | 112,168,000     |  |
| Fla. ....  | 60,495,000      | 43,122,000      | 47,329,000      |  |
| Ga. ....   | 348,924,000     | 234,147,000     | 198,932,000     |  |
| Ky. ....   | 219,821,000     | 147,004,000     | 144,299,000     |  |
| La. ....   | 182,845,000     | 112,940,000     | 104,463,000     |  |
| Md. ....   | 87,001,000      | 55,082,000      | 59,574,000      |  |
| Miss. ....   | 190,674,000     | 150,327,000     | 128,605,000     |  |
| Mo. ....   | 260,049,000     | 239,399,000     | 227,036,000     |  |
| N. C. ....   | 274,425,000     | 197,185,000     | 173,497,000     |  |
| Okla. ....   | 233,723,000     | 171,774,000     | 159,713,000     |  |
| S. C. ....   | 192,468,000     | 148,627,000     | 131,653,000     |  |
| Tenn. ....   | 220,888,000     | 145,977,000     | 138,255,000     |  |
| Tex. ....  | 684,851,000     | 321,826,000     | 351,628,000     |  |
| Va. ....   | 215,886,000     | 152,703,000     | 104,218,000     |  |
| N. Va. ..  | 87,262,000      | 68,945,000      | 56,430,000      |  |
| Total  | \$3,658,302,000 | \$2,586,022,000 | \$2,290,140,000 |  |

As compared with 1914 these crop values for 1916 show a gain of \$1,368,162.

Owing to the floods which destroyed the crops in some parts of the State and to the boll weevil destruction of much cotton, Alabama shows almost exactly the same total value for 1916 as for 1915, notwithstanding the high prices ruling. Every other State in the South, however, shows a heavy gain. In Arkansas there was a gain of \$102,800,000, in Florida \$17,300,000, Georgia \$114,800,000, Kentucky \$72,800,000, Louisiana \$70,000,000, Maryland \$32,000,000, Mississippi \$40,300,000, Missouri \$21,000,000, North Carolina \$77,000,000, Oklahoma \$52,000,000, South Carolina \$44,000,000, Tennessee \$75,000,000, Texas \$272,000,000, Virginia \$37,000,000 and West Virginia \$20,300,000.

The agricultural development of the South may be strikingly shown by a comparison of seven Southern States with seven typical rich Western States. Here are the figures for the value of all farm products in 1916 as reported by the United States Department of Agriculture:

| 7 Southern States: |                               | 7 Western States: |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
|                    | Value of farm products, 1916. |                   | Value of farm products, 1916. |
| Va. ....           | \$ 215,000,000                | Ohio .....        | \$ 281,000,000                |
| N. C. ....         | 274,000,000                   | Ind. ....         | 285,000,000                   |
| Ga. ....           | 348,000,000                   | Ill. ....         | 478,000,000                   |
| Ky. ....           | 219,000,000                   | Mich. ....        | 233,000,000                   |
| Tenn. ....         | 220,000,000                   | Wis. ....         | 254,000,000                   |
| Tex. ....          | 684,000,000                   | Minn. ....        | 269,000,000                   |
| Ark. ....          | 250,000,000                   | S. D. ....        | 190,000,000                   |
| Total              | \$2,210,000,000               | Total             | \$1,990,000,000               |

In 1916 these seven Southern States produced of agriculture \$220,000,000 more than the seven Western States named, and yet some people are still harping on the South being non-progressive and its agricultural interests as behind the times. It is true that much remains to be done, but these figures show that the South even now is doing much.

Last year was a record-breaking year for short crops throughout the country and also in other lands. The total decrease in the grain crop of the United States as compared with 1915 was over 1,200,000,000 bushels. The South shared in this decline in grain, but only to the extent of 317,000,000 bushels, or but a little over one-fourth of the falling off in the whole country. The production of grain in 1915 was a fair measure of the South's growing interest in diversified farming, as the crop that year showed a gain of 328,000,000 bushels over 1914.

## THE MARKETING PROBLEM.

Societies and associations, civic organizations of various sorts, and even legislative bodies have been discussing the problem of systematic marketing of the products of the farm now for several years. But as yet their discussions have gotten them nowhere.

Proposed plans for the systematic marketing of agricultural products have been amiss for legislative bodies to devote to it offered, and in some instances even put into operation; but they have usually been short-lived. There is so far no record of any successfully organized marketing system, whether public, semi-public or private, of general purpose or extent.

Here and there are met successful examples of organized effort in the handling of single products, such as that demonstrated by the Georgia Fruit Exchange in marketing the peach crop of this state; while occasionally, too, we find small community bureaus which are getting fairly good results for those within a limited area. But the stage of organization which would encompass a congressional district, an entire state or a geographical section of the country, has not yet been reached, in spite of all the talk and earnest effort.

Even the cotton crop, which moves to market with some regularity and in accordance with more or less definite plans, lacks the helpful assistance of a systematic selling agency. On this point The Fort Worth Record says:

What the farmer needs is a marketing system. What the cotton farmer, above all other things, needs is a modern system for the better selling of the fleecy staple. He has been promised cheap money to hold his product; he has been given warehouse facilities; he has been given railroad rates; he has a state department of agriculture, a state warehouse department and a department of agriculture at the Agricultural and Mechanical college of the state.

What he needs the most is how to sell to the best advantage, where to sell and

when to sell. He needs salesmen instead of laws. In other words, he needs a marketing system.

If cotton, which comes pretty near marketing itself today because of constant demand at market price, is in need of a better organized selling agency, what shall we say of the other products of the farm which do not so easily find ready cash sale and must often hunt their purchasers at some remote and distant point? One county may raise more corn, more oats, more hay, more hogs, more chickens than it can possibly consume. It must find a market for the surplus. The community that is short on these products may be right at hand, and yet not know the supplies it needs are just across the county line.

What agriculture needs is a sales department. There is not a modern business of any pretensions today without one. Agriculture is the biggest business in the world, and the one with the least business system.

States and the United States have attempted to do many other things for the farmer, but in this most important of all its needs they have as yet accomplished next to nothing. There must be, there is, some way to solve the problem. It would not come amiss for legislative bodies to devote to it a little more of effort and attention.

## MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE HELPING NEGROES.

Agricultural College, Miss.—To encourage the negroes of Mississippi to remain at their farm work, rather than follow the lure of soft jobs and good pay held out by labor agents from other States, Director E. R. Lloyd, of the co-operative extension work of the Mississippi A. and M. College and Federal government is planning a series of farmers' institutes for negroes. By teaching the negroes better farming methods, and pointing out ways of avoiding crop failures such as have been experienced by some this year, Professor Lloyd hopes to increase the usefulness of the negroes to themselves and to the State. Much good has already been accomplished along this line by the several negro county agents who are working under the direction of State Demonstration Agent R. S. Wilson.

The first of these institutes for negroes will be held at Artesia, Mississippi, within the next few days, and Professor Lloyd, State Agent Wilson, and other extension workers are scheduled to speak to the negroes in that section.

State Commissioner of Agriculture, P. P. Garner, and the Federal government, have approved this extension service to the negro farm workers.



# Agriculture - 1916.

## Condition and Improvement of THE REAL REMEDY FOR "SCARCITY OF POWER"

*The Progressive Farmer 2/8/16.*

THERE are, in round numbers, 8,000,000 acres of land under cultivation in North Carolina, and 233,000 persons cultivating these acres, making an average of 34 acres per laborer. The State of New York has an average of 101 acres per laborer, Ohio 137 acres, Illinois 146, Pennsylvania 105, and Iowa 218 acres. Thus we see that here in North Carolina we have 3.5 times as many laborers per acre as any other state mentioned, but still it is the only one that is suffering from the "scarcity of labor."

Why is this? To answer this question, we have but to glance at the census report for 1910. Here we find that New York has 4 1-7 horses and mules per farm hand, Ohio has 6 1-2, Pennsylvania 4 1-17, Iowa 10 1-3, and Illinois 7 1-3, while here in North Carolina we have only 1 1-4 per farm hand.

The reason for such abnormal conditions is this: in the states named they have awakened to the modern methods of agriculture and have left the old slipshod, haphazard ways of their grandfathers. When they felt the labor supply lessening they did not call across the water for some Dago, Turk or Chinese to fill the vacant place, nor did they run up the black flag of despair. On the contrary, they saw the solution of the problem, not in the assimilation of some foreign element nor by abandoning the farm, but in the simple remedy of mule-muscle and machinery—and for us in the South also, mule-muscle and machinery is the solution of "scarcity of labor."

—J. W. Barrett in Student Farmer.

## NEGRO PLANTER SELLS HIS FARM

*The Negro Farmer.*  
FOR \$25,000  
Port Gibson, Miss., April 20.—Evans Johnson, a planter, last Tuesday sold 1,150 acres of land at \$18 an acre to Jude Headley of Chicago, Illinois. With the land he sold cattle, horses and implements aggregating about \$25,000. Johnson, however, retained 250 acres, his original home and a few cattle and horses, for small farm. The tract is five miles north of Port Gibson, and is known as the Fairview plantation. About twenty years ago Johnson bought the tract from Bernheimer and sons, on credit. At that time he owned only the 250 acres he now retains, and there was a mortgage on it. There was no mortgage on the property he sold Tuesday. —Natchez (Miss.) Weekly Reporter.

## GEORGIA'S GREAT OPPORTU- NITY. 12-1-15

A correspondent from Chicago writes The Constitution a startling, and incontrovertible, indictment of the educational stinkiness of Georgia and other southern states as contrasted with western states, asking "What is the matter with Georgia?" He

shows in a comparison with Nebraska, one state alone, that its university has more instructors and more students than the combined universities of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. His letter, which is good New Year fodder for Georgia statesmen, is as follows:

Editor Constitution: Georgia contains 200,000 more white people than Nebraska. Besides wonderful agricultural resources Georgia has vast resources in timber, coal and other minerals, while Nebraska has only one natural resource, viz: agriculture.

Notwithstanding the ravages of the civil war, it is safe to say that the net assets of Georgia at the close of the war exceeded those of Nebraska at that time, and yet we find that today Nebraska has five times as many instructors and students in its state university as has Georgia, and Nebraska sends as many students to colleges outside the state as Georgia, and contains more normal schools and denominational colleges than Georgia.

What ails Georgia, anyway?  
What ails the entire south?  
The state university of Nebraska has more instructors and more students than have all the state universities in the five following states, viz: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Here is something that should be called to the attention of the lawmakers and educators of the south.

J. S. BOND.  
Chicago, December 29, 1914.

Speaking for Georgia alone, the chief trouble with this state is that as concerns education the state has been boring with a gimlet when it should have used an augur.

Our correspondent reminds us that Nebraska's educational superiority is, despite the fact that she has but one asset—agriculture. Georgia has that, in as great or greater measure, than Nebraska, and added, manufactures, naval stores, timbering and numerous lesser industries. The native wealth is here. The trouble is with the state's attitude toward our young men and women and their equipment, which has uniformly been short-sighted and parsimonious.

One of the factors that made the west great and wealthy was its quick recognition of the high role played by education in the development of riches, and the application of the principle. Every state west of the Mississippi lavishes money on its educational plant, notably its agricultural and technical facilities.

The only way that Georgia will ever reap her destiny is to follow a like course. One of the soundest investments the state could make, at the very next session of its legislature, would be the investment of a million dollars in scientific agricultural education

in its various forms. Every boy in Georgia with the making of a farmer in him should be equipped to be a first-class farmer, and entirely at the state's expense, if that is necessary. The money thus spent would return in a ratio beyond computation.

The need is especially urgent, in this era when the south looks to America to lower her cost of living; when our agricultural system is deranged, and there is necessity for quick readjustment.

We must stop boring with a gimlet. The augur is the tool. And it must be brought into use immediately if we are to keep pace with opportunity and the quickstep of this marvelous age.

## What Is Average Farmer Worth to His County?

Editor Constitution: What is the average industrious white farmer worth to his county? *Constitution*

One hundred dollars a year? Five hundred? One thousand? *2-16-16*

We often hear it said of a man, "He is not worth his salt," or "He is not worth the powder it would take to blow him up."

That is not the kind of man on whom we are figuring.

Former Secretary James Wilson, of the United States department of agriculture used to say that a farmer is worth \$1,500 a year to his state. He based that on the estimated value of the average farm's annual products. The last census did not even attempt to compute the total value of farm products, but the agricultural department estimated that the average farm yield products worth \$1,400 a year.

According to the best information available, the average yield of Georgia's farms is about \$800 a year.

There are two reasons why this state falls so far below the average for the entire country. One is because forty-three out of every hundred farmers in Georgia are negroes, and it is a matter of common knowledge that their yields are below those of the white farmers.

Another reason is that Georgia's farm average but 93 acres each against 137 for the entire country.

There are 25 per cent more one-horse negro farmers than one-horse white farmer in Georgia, but there are 50 per cent more whites running two and three plows than there are negroes operating farms of that size.

The farms operated by whites averaged 118 acres.

The farms operated by negroes averaged 58 acres.

Speaking roughly, it would seem that the whites averaged a yield around \$1,100 each and the negroes something like \$500 each.

Georgia can easily accommodate 100,000 more farmers, allowing 118 acres to each. That would take 11,800,000 acres, and we would still have as much more land that has never known a plow or hoe.

One hundred thousand new white farmers, each producing farm crops having an

## ENCOURAGING NEGRO FARMERS

*Journal & Guide 9-9-16*

The Norfolk and Western Railway, through its Industrial Department, has begun a movement, that if followed up by other railroads will mean a new era in the development of the Negro farmers and the agricultural interests of the South. The Norfolk and Western plan is outlined in an article in the news columns of this issue of the Journal and Guide.

Very little attention has been paid to the Negro farm tenants and farm owners of the South by the government and the great transportation lines that have contributed so much to the upbuilding of the country's agricultural and industrial wealth.

According to the census of 1910 there were in the South 890,141 colored farmers: 218,467 farm owners and 670,474 tenant farmers. In Virginia, according to the census of 1910, there were 48,114 colored farmers who had 2,238,220 acres of land in farms. The government and the great industrial and commercial enterprises of the State cannot afford to ignore this large and growing source of wealth. The movement started by the Norfolk and Western is an indication that a new day is dawning for the Negro farmer.



annual value of \$1,100, would add \$110,000,000 of new wealth per year. They would do more than that through the enhancement in land values—an increase due to their labor, their improvements, their development. Every other land owner would benefit by this increment. The merchants and the manufacturers would have from a quarter to half a million new customers, the banks new depositors, the newspapers new subscribers.

At a meeting held in Savannah a few days ago the Chicago representative of the Southern Settlement and Development organization stated that he is in contact with numbers of farmers in Iowa, Illinois and other western states who want to come south.

It is to get people of this kind on our untitled acres that the Georgia branch is working and asking the co-operation of every Georgian who is interested in the development of the state.

FRANK WELDON.

Savannah, Ga., February 15, 1916.

## SOUTH TAKES THE LEAD.

In an amazing story of the increase in the total value of all agricultural products in the United States in 1915, as compared with 1914, Editor Richard H. Edmonds, of The Baltimore Manufacturers' Record, shows that more than sixty per cent of the total gain of \$526,070,000, or to put it in figures, \$317,209,000, was in the south.

This marvelous increase in production is attributable to sixteen states, beginning with West Virginia and Maryland on the east, and going through Missouri and Texas on the west. In other words, one-third of the states of the union produced last year nearly two-thirds of the entire country's increase in agricultural production.

This remarkable record made by the states of the south may be attributed almost directly to the cotton crisis of the fall of 1914 when, following the outbreak of the European war, cotton went to 6 cents and even lower, and starvation almost stared many of our farmers directly in the face. They had failed to make their food at home, and they were confronted with the alternative of doing without it or giving away their cotton.

Not to be caught again in that predicament, Georgia farmers and farmers throughout the south went to work in 1915 and planted and harvested more food crops for man and beast than ever before in all the agricultural history of this great agricultural section. They made less cotton and more food; cotton went higher and they had food products to sell. That is the real secret of it.

Conditions which confront the agricultural south today are not materially different from those of the spring of 1915. Cotton is a little bit higher in the market; that is all. If southern farmers continue to play the ostrich as they have in the past, and blind themselves to results which experience has shown they cannot expect to escape, they may reverse this record by ex-

cessive cotton planting in 1916.

But if they will make their foodstuffs first, even if only enough for home consumption, and let cotton be the surplus crop, as it should, they may repeat the marvelous record of 1915 and build another agricultural increase surpassing again the achievement of all the other 32 states, north, east and west.

Where the farmers of the south brought to this territory and to their own pockets last year more than \$300,000,000 increase over the year before, there is no answer to the argument. What they did then, they can do again by pursuit of the same methods. But if they abandon those methods and invoke the all-cotton "fetich," they may as well expect and prepare for conditions not unlike those which the beginning of the European war brought upon them.

The problem with its clear solution, experience teaches, is before them. The harvest will tell the story.

## Passing Throng

John McDuffie, a negro planter six miles east of the city, has worked a novel and seemingly certain means of eradicating the boll weevil. He has two hundred and fifty acres of the finest cotton probably in this county, which is full of blooms and not a single weevil is to be found in it. On being asked how he killed them, he said he does not kill them, but prevents their coming to his cotton. McDuffie is an intelligent man, and originated the method of running them away himself. If it is a fact, it is claimed, he has found the long sought method of preventing the waste of millions of dollars in the South through the ravage of this first Mexican evil.

The method is simple. McDuffie takes crude oil, tar, and camphor gum. He puts these in a pot and boils them. With sufficient oil in the mixture to make it liquid, he wets common croker sacks in the mixture, then squeezes them as dry as he thinks necessary. He says if too much of the mixture is used it will kill the young cotton. The wet sacks are fastened by a drag stick attached to the plow beam. Each week the crop is plowed and dragged over with these saturated sacks, both sides of the cotton getting a touch from the fumes of the mixture. On going down one side the sack touches lightly one side, and then when the plow returns it touches the other side.

This method costs about fifteen cents an acre, McDuffie says. He says he used the method with success last year and that he will get five more bales per horse this year by having the weevils out of the way. If it is a success, and it seemingly is, say those who saw his whole crop which stands to show for itself, this negro has solved a problem that has confronted the best brains in the South for the past ten years.

# N. & W. PLANS TO TEACH NEGROES TO TILL THE SOIL

along the line of the Norfolk and Western Railway in the vicinity of South Boston, in Halifax County. Following out Mr. Johnson's general plan, of the Norfolk and Western Railroad he immediately got in close touch of a plan, conceived by President L. E. Johnson, to lend material aid to progressive negro farmers in that section; advised them in planting well of the N. and W. system in the ex-planned kitchen gardens that would insure them throughout the season a

tentive development of their agricultural resources. The plan, it was said, already had been tried out as an experiment among progressive colored farmers in Halifax County, near South Boston, and has proved successful. More than 200 people interested assembled in a large grove in that community on August 10 to hear the several speakers, among whom were F. H. LeBaume, J. F. Fooshe, and a successful negro farmer—T. C. Walker—who is a graduate of Hampton Institute.

The plan, as authorized by President Johnson, calls for the employment of a trained negro agriculturist, now John L. Charity, a graduate of Hampton Institute. He has been in charge of several departments at Hampton since his graduation, and seems to be making good progress in his work with the negro farmers who are co-operating with the Norfolk and Western.

The official announcement of the new plan, as given out by the Norfolk and Western is as follows:

## Farm Advisor for the Negro.

"It is generally conceded that the Federal government has accomplished remarkable results in co-operation with the Southeastern States in supplying trained agricultural advisors or demonstrators in thousands of counties throughout the South, who work in close contact with the farmers to insure better production, better marketing and better returns from their farm crops. This condition pertains almost exclusively to the work with the white farmers. It is true there are a few negro farm demonstrators in some few counties in each Southern State, but the work among the negroes has not commanded but a fraction of the attention or results that has been given to the work among the white farmers. Recognizing that situation some four or five months ago, Mr. L. E. Johnson, president of the Norfolk and Western Railway Company, decided that conditions called for assistance of the negro farmers in the territory tributary to this railroad.

## Employ Agriculturist.

"After a conference with the writer and a general outline of his plan of day, authority was issued by him for the employment of a trained negro agriculturist, and within a few weeks one of the best colored men available in the territory was secured from Hampton Institute. This man, John L. Charity, is a Hampton graduate, who has had charge of one or more departments at Hampton since his graduation. Some three months ago he was installed in the community of negro farmers residing most of whom have no one to who

they can go for practical, efficient advice and instruction.

plant a few flowers, do more good whitewashing and improve the general appearance and sanitation of their buildings and homes.

## A Get-Together Picnic.

"He is interesting them along lines of greater diversification of agricultural production and on the necessity of getting together occasionally for social business and conference. Along these lines he arranged the department of a get-together picnic, which was held in the large grove adjoining the negro church in their community on August 10, and it was the writer's privilege to attend this picnic and to have the opportunity to speak to the colored farmers and commend them for the work they had already accomplished. More than 200 people attended this meeting, including all the better class negro farmers in the community for miles about, with their families. They listened with great attentiveness to the words of encouragement and good advice given by the several speakers, including Mr. J. F. Fooshe, Roanoke's market agent, and a prominent and successful farmer, T. C. Walker by name, a graduate of Hampton, who has made an unusual success in extensive farming down in Gloucester County. The attitude of all those present convinced the speakers that they were in earnest in their endeavor to put their vocation on a higher plane and to get better results and thus insure themselves and their families the necessities and comforts of life that many farmers unfortunately do not command at this time.

## A Big Field for This Work.

"This colored farm advisor, John Charity, who is working among these people, is demonstrating that there is a large field for work of this kind and that the results already obtained by him are exceedingly gratifying, and that they insure a real practical return for the expense involved.

"There are somewhere in the neighborhood of a hundred white farm demonstrators working in Virginia to day. There are four or five negro demonstrators in widely separated districts working along the same line under State and Federal jurisdiction. In many counties in Virginia, however, the negro farmers outnumber the white farmers almost two to one and it is sincerely hoped that in the not distant future some better provision can be made for the instruction, inspiration and encouragement of this multitude of negro farmers most of whom have no one to who



cate Spring of 1917 Will See Them Broke, as  
Sharpeners Get in Their Work.

By a Special Correspondent.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., Nov. 15.—

With the price of cotton approximately 100 per cent more than last year, the cotton section of the Southwest is experiencing an era of prosperity truly unprecedented. Especially is this statement applicable to Jefferson County, the heart of the cotton growing part of Arkansas, where the good times are shared alike by both the large and small farmer. But it is the negro farmer whose prosperity is attracting the most attention, the negro farmer who year in and year out has toiled ceaselessly to find himself constantly becoming deeper in debt to the supply houses and the landlord. The self-same farmer this year has waked up, overnight almost, to discover that he is "flush," and the realization has caused him to give way to a splurge of reckless and sensational extravagance. Though the saner-minded negroes are banking their hard-earned increment, the majority of them have been dazed temporarily by their good fortune and Croesus-like, scatter their shekels to the four winds with an abandon equalling that of the renowned Lydian king.

Never before in the commercial history of Jefferson County have the negroes aspired to be owners of automobiles until now. Never before have they bought pianos, organs, talking machines, buggies, saddles, guns and the other luxuries of life so profusely. And indications point to the spring of 1917 seeing them in the self-same plight as in all previous years—broke.

Real estate sharpeners have seized opportunity by the forelock to sell to country negroes so-called "additions" to Pine Bluff which on investigation turned out to be really much nearer Dexter, a station on the Dollarway Road, ten miles from the city. Patent medicine venders on the streets of Pine Bluff sell their wares as fast as they can hand out the bottles. A horde of carnivals and negro minstrels extract their bit of the toll. But it is the city merchant, the supply house and the automobile man who are skimming the cream of the surplus coin.

Negress, 65, Owns \$1,000 Auto. Until a month ago, Rebecca Dawson, a 65-year-old farmereess, had never thought of propelling a gas wagon over the county roads but she now owns a \$1,000 auto, and furthermore, drives it herself. Re-

becca's husband, Rev. Seban Dawson, who died last year, was said to be the leading negro politician of Lincoln, the adjoining county, and many times went to Washington, D. C., as delegate-at-large for the Republican party from his own bailliwick. This year his widow not only paid for her car and paid herself out of debt, but has a larder stocked with food for many months to come and a hundred perfectly good dollars lying away in the old sock and crying to be spent.

Frank Prewitt, a negro tenant at Sherrill, who owns not a foot of land, was \$800 in debt on last year's account and \$725 on this year's, but he now has wiped out his entire indebtedness, has \$500 in cash and about three more bales of cotton which are worth at least \$350.

Just as extraordinary is the record of Files Sanders, a tenant at Ladds. He, too, is little better off than Frank Prewitt as far as owning land is concerned, for 40 acres is all he can call his. On this, and on rented land Sanders has paid a \$1,000 debt and has \$1,500 he doesn't know what to do with. At least he didn't know until a few days ago, when the idea occurred to him to buy a second hand automobile. So anxious was he to be an autoist that he paid the owner just what the machine cost when new and then gave his order to the local agent for a next year's model.

Tenant Buys Big Car.

Then there is Drew Sims, a tenant on the D. B. Niven plantation at Tucker. Sims bought for cash a \$1,250, seven-passenger auto after seriously considering the car for a period of five minutes. In a few days he was back at the dealer's with a plea that he wanted it off his hands—just couldn't learn to drive it. A chauffeur of his own race soon put him wise to the secrets of the big tourer and now Sims enjoys the good roads of the county in a manner such as every taxpayer would like to enjoy them.

S. B. Adams, a negro blacksmith and farmer of Grady, was in Pine Bluff recently flashing a roll of \$20 bills as large as the ankle of a fat girl in a sideshow. He left town that afternoon in a \$1,250 car. F. D. Cooper of Sheridan, negro conductor on a log train of the Arkansas Short Leaf Lumber Company, acquired a machine for a little less than a thousand dollars.

Proportionally as extravagant were Joe Madden and J. A. P. Lee, tenants on a farm at Tucker, who paid spot cash for smaller machines.

Solomon Ward, a tenant at Grady, failed to live up to the wisdom accredited to his biblical predecessor by his purchase of a 2-year-old flivver from Henry Varn, a young white man of Pine Bluff. Despite Mr. Varn's car showing chronic bronchial symptoms Solomon Ward was only too glad to hand over \$275 in cash for it.

A local hardware firm's salesman received the surprise of his life recently while selling a wagon to a negro farmer. The vehicle cost \$80; all the negro had was a check. Could the "cap'n" cash it? Certainly the "cap'n" could—that is until he saw the amount, a cool thousand dollars.

One of the negro patrons of a furnishing house posted \$392.50—the price of an auto—with the bookkeeper. Two weeks later he learned the car had not arrived. Itching for an auto he bought the bookkeeper's car for this amount and would have paid \$100 in addition to have obtained it, but for the white man's fair-mindedness.

The foregoing are merely examples tending to show what a substantial percentage of the negro farmers in the cotton belt are doing with their extra money. One traveling salesman, S. M. McGehee, has quit the road to sell second-hand cars throughout the adjoining counties, and thus far he has succeeded in selling two or three second-hand cars every twenty-four hours. Most of his buyers are negroes.

Merchants Make More Money.

Furniture houses, dry goods stores and standard business concerns are likewise making more money this year than they have done in a generation. Two dry goods stores on Main street, in the heart of Pine Bluff, and only a block apart, are reported on good authority to have had receipts totaling from \$4,000 to \$6,000 at the end of many a day's business, money obtained almost altogether on small purchases. A host of smaller clothing stores are reaping commensurate profits from the negro's lavishness. Music houses have had a steady upward climb in receipts for the past month and they believe their banner months will be in November and December. The natural love of the black man for music manifests itself in his desire for a piano or talking machine. Gladly he will kick in \$200 or \$250 for a standard piano. Organs are his second choice and phonographs third.

Among the rural white residents organs are the main desideratum, but the darky remains unswervingly devoted to the piano. His daughter or wife usually stand at his shoulder as he buys it, the girl attired in the fashionable Burgundy-colored frock, modish hat and \$10 shoes while the woman's fat arms are seen through



HENRY B. WALTHALL.

Native Alabamian who will star in the Motion picture feature to advertise the resources and attractions of his State—The Alabama Travelog.

Arkansas Cotton Belt's Prosperity  
Brings Autos to Negro Tenants

Purchases of Luxuries by Jefferson County Farmers Indicate

Montgomery  
advertiser  
9/21/16

Henry B. Walthall

STAR



the diaphanous waist of Georgette crepe. If the girl finds favor in the eyes of some man who is a few dollars to the good there is the likelihood of a negro marriage being performed. The scene is frequently one of the smaller clothing stores that caters to the negro trade and the preacher is often the firm's "sidewalk solicitor," who has inveigled them there in the dual role of prime minister to mammon and caterer to cupid. The noose of love had been securely tied over one such couple last week and the minister had pronounced the benediction. "Salute the bride," he urged. But the new hubby demurred. "Naw, suh, pahson, I'll do my kiss-in' at home" he stammered amid the laughter of a policeman and the store clerks who witnessed the ceremony.

Accompanying the plenteousness of money in the cotton belt of Arkansas is the inevitable increase of lawlessness. The police docket a few mornings ago showed \$335 paid in fines. Three-fourths of them were for minor offenses costing the infringers \$5 and \$10. But the greatest of all infractions of the law is the illegal sale of whisky, which is now known as "bootlegging" even in the parlance of the magistrates. Rarely does a single week pass without two or three bootleggers being snared in the coils of the law. Sometimes they are released with a fine as light as \$50; more often it is \$100. But the white men who are behind the bootleggers are never heard of. They are the men who order liquor in wholesale shipments, distribute it among their agents and pay their fines when they are arrested. The king pin of these bootleggers is at present said to be running through negro agents twenty-five bootlegging joints in the vicinity of Pine Bluff. So shrewdly does he ply his game that the authorities have no means to combat with him and no tangible evidence on which to arrest him. In fact no one seems to be sure which one of a number of suspicious men is the king pin.

#### Plantation Owners Use Dice.

Unscrupulous plantation owners pander to the negro's fondness for gambling to relieve him of his surplus wealth. On such plantations a white man is employed at the plantation store by virtue of his ability to wield a pair of loaded dice. On Saturday night and Sunday he engages the tenants in a crap game where he cleans them with remarkable alacrity and efficiency. The spoils, or a greater part of them, go back into the coffers of the store. This practice is the exception rather than the rule in the cotton country.

The rising cost of the necessities of life has its redeeming features in that it has been a stimulus to the negro to buy before the price of things ascends still higher. To buy flour is one of the first things that

pops into his head. Alexander Brothers, a local supply firm, is selling at the rate of 500 barrels a week. "We estimate the negro's wealth by the number of barrels of flour he has in his house at Christmas time," one of the supply men said. The average customer of ours will have on this Christmas from five to ten barrels. Last year the average was from two to five barrels."

Beneath the acts of extravagant buying and folly that characterizes the negro at this season of the year lie the bed rock of statistics. In the face of a far shorter crop this year than last, receipts to date show 66,123 bales as compared with 41,008 bales up to the same day in 1915. With cotton bringing twice as much this year and each bale worth \$115 to \$125, it is very easily explained how the negroes come into the possession of their wealth. That the negro has enemies in this part of the South no one denies, but his friends are in the majority. The white man that realizes the negro, as one of Arkansas' best tillers of soil, hopes that the extravagance of this autumn may be a lesson for the black man in succeeding years and should prosperity visit the cotton belt next year, he trusts that the negro farmer will learn the golden lesson of thrift and which is the only policy for him to adopt would be to earn the economic freedom to which he is justly entitled.

#### WHIPPED TO DEATH ON BURLESON PLANTATION

The fact that Postmaster General Burleson, one of the most influential members of President Wilson's cabinet, is the owner of a plantation on which Negro laborers receive most inhuman treatment, was brought to the attention of the United States Senate by Senator Sherman. In a recent speech he charged and had placed in the official records that an inhuman overseer on Burleson's plantation beat a Negro hand to death with a blacksnake whip.

Senator Sherman declared that the overseer, though tried, was acquitted, and that Burleson, as Postmaster General, appointed the man postmaster at Longview, Texas, over the protests of the Democratic congressman from that district. Commenting editorially on this fact, the New York American and Journal, Wm. R. Hearst's morning paper, said: *New York Age*

It seems almost inconceivable that a convict slave plantation owner should be at the same time a member of the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

But Senator Sherman left no room for doubt when he took the floor of the Senate to expose and excoriate Burleson.

No wonder the Democratic Senators sat mute.

The inhumanities and detestable cruelties practiced upon these Negro convict slave plantations are a disgrace to a civilized people.

Senator Sherman charged and read the official records to prove that an inhuman overseer on Burleson's convict labor plantation beat one of the poor wretches to death with a blacksnake whip; that he was tried and acquitted—the victim being a black; and that subsequently Burleson, after Mr. Wilson had made him Postmaster-General, actually appointed this man postmaster at Longview, Texas—over the protest, we are glad to say—of the Democratic Representative from that district.

Mr. Burleson is now campaigning in company with Samuel Gompers for Mr. Wilson.

We assume that a reasonable fear of decent public opinion will lead Mr. Wilson to see to it that Mr. Burleson withdraws from the combination.

The spectacle of the head of the American Federation of Labor and the owner of a convict slave labor plantation speaking from the same platform in support of the same candidate is apt to excite anything but respect for the candidate himself.

Of course, Mr. Wilson knew that Burleson was a convict slave labor exploiter when he selected him to be a member of the Cabinet, but now that the rest of the country has found it out, Mr. Wilson ought to keep Burleson out of sight for two months at least.

And we think Samuel Gompers will heartily agree with this advice. His enemies have accused Sam Gompers of being everything but a fool.

## Negro Urges Help For Men on Land

To encourage the negroes to remain at their farm work, rather than follow the lure of "soft jobs and good pay" held out by labor agents from other states, Director E. R. Lloyd of the cooperative extension work of the Mississippi A. and M. College and Federal government is planning a series of farmers' institutes for negroes. By teaching the negroes better farming methods, and pointing out ways of avoiding crop failures such as have been experienced by some this year, Professor Lloyd hopes to increase the usefulness of the negroes to themselves and to the State.

State Commissioner of Agriculture P. P. Garner, and the Federal government have approved this extension service to the negro farm workers. In making application to the commissioner of agriculture for a farmers' institute for his people, W. B. Tucker negro school teacher of Artesia sets forth the following clear-cut reasons for the negro exodus to the north and suggests a remedy:

"In view of the fact that large numbers of our colored people are leaving for the North and for other sections of the country," he says, "we who do not desire to do likewise realize that some step should be taken with a view of discouraging the exodus. I feel that they are taking a

step that they will ultimately regret. True, many of them will stay away but many more will surely become dissatisfied and return to their old homes in the South only to find to their sorrow that their services are no longer required.

"The contributory causes of this unusual negro exodus are many, the most prominent of which, insofar as the negro on the farm is concerned, is his ignorance of up-to-date scientific methods of farming. Of the numerous farmers' institutes and demonstration meetings held in our country, but few have reached the negro directly; the merits of crop diversifications have failed to appeal to him in an encouraging light, and, therefore, one complete failure of the cotton and corn crops—his only hobby—is sufficient to throw him into a panic. On the slightest inducement, due to exaggerated reports of prosperity elsewhere he is ready to pack up and move.

"Farmers' institutes for negroes will go far toward calming the growing unrest among the negroes in the rural districts of our section of the State. If institutes of this kind are held at convenient places in every county, of the black belt and such subjects as Diversification of Crops, economy on the farm, how to Grow Cotton in spite of the Boll Weevil, and lectures to the women on Domestic Science be discussed by agricultural experts, a great deal of good will be done. In every case these lectures should be supplemented by a speech advising the negroes against emigration to the North, by some of the negro leaders of the State in whom the people have confidence. I feel that such a campaign carried out at this season of the year will accomplish much."

#### WHERE THE FARMER LOSES.

The Houston Post presented some remarkable figures the other day which are well worthy the study and consideration of every farmer in the cotton belt. According to The Post there are 92,000 farms in Texas which have no cows, 124,000 which have no pigs, 60,000 without poultry, many that do not grow hay and 369,000 that raise no sweet potatoes.

One of the explanations given for this condition is that Texas, foremost among the agricultural states, is largely devoted to specialized farming. What would be more nearly exact, and the statement would apply to every other state in the cotton belt, is that too many of the farmers specialize on one product—cotton.

Getting right down to it, there is no excuse for any farmer anywhere specializing on cotton. As long as he does that he is wasting his substance and throwing away his opportunity. The by-products of the farm which go to waste mean just that much money lost. These alone would grow cows and pigs and chickens. When the packing house buys a steer, there isn't an ounce of it but goes into some commercial product—even the hoofs—that brings its price on the market. If the same principle were applied to the farm it would mean money in the bank.

Every one of those Texas farms, every farm in every state throughout the cotton belt, should have its cows, one or more; should have its pigs and its chickens, and grow its hay and grain and other foodstuffs. The farmer who ignores the demand for food products now in the face of the world's greatest need, is going to be the heavy loser. If he makes only his own supplies, he will save himself 25 to 50 per cent in the cost of living. If he grows to sell, he will be proportionately the gainer.

Of the coming demand for food, particularly in the European countries now at war, The Washington Post says:

The world looks to this country, to the farmers of the United States, for record-breaking tonnages of foodstuffs during the years 1916 and 1917.

The needs of the populations of the world will be more pressing than at any time in the past.

The demand will be more urgent, for it is not possible during this year for European, Asiatic or African production of foodstuffs to in any degree approximate the yields of either 1914 or 1915.

Every acre of land that can be made to produce foodstuffs should be cultivated by our farmers this year and next year. Huge exports of farm products will continue for at least two years more.

Every season that passes now while this war lasts lessens the ability of foreign populations to produce at home.

The agriculturists of this country should use every means in their power to increase their production of foodstuffs.

And while these are factors that are going to hold up the value of food products for years to come, there is no more uncertain reproduct than our own cotton, as market conditions the past two years have shown.

The allied blockade against American cotton has not been abated in the smallest degree, and there is no present indication that it will.

The farmer who gives himself up wholly to cotton under these obvious conditions may as well get ready for the worst, for that will be just about what is coming to him.

## Tuskegee Organizes Marketing Society

(Special to The Advertiser.)

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 28. Under the direction of County Farm Demonstrator A. S. Vaughan, a large number of farmers and business men met at the court house yesterday afternoon for the purpose of organizing a marketing association. Among those present who delivered speeches on the subject were Commissioner of Agriculture J. A. Wade, of Montgomery, and Mr. O. P. Ford, president of the Farmers Union. Much interest was shown and another meeting will be held within the next few days for the purpose of forming a permanent association. Notasulga which is in this county, was one of the first communities to form an association of this kind, and at their regular meeting which was held Saturday at least two hundred people attended.



# Agriculture - 1916 Condition and Improvement of Atlanta Live Stock Men

## Preparing for 70,000 Head Of Cattle and Hogs in 1916

2-20-16  
Remarkable Growth of This  
Important Industry Shown  
by Figures for the Past  
Five Years.

When the statement is made on reliable authority that in five years the live stock shipped to Atlanta has increased 500 per cent, or that five years ago there were only four thousand head received in the city annually, whereas there are now over 50,000, some idea may be gained of the immense strides this important industry has made.

Before the White Provision company established a packing house in Atlanta there was very little market for either cattle or hogs in the city. Today both cattle and hogs are coming here by the carloads. In 1915 over 30,000 hogs were killed. The old "hog-killing time" during only the very cold weather in Georgia is a thing of the past, for hogs are now killed all the year round, as is done in Chicago.

While the increase of the receipts of cattle and hogs has been 500 per cent in five years, the increase continues monthly and was not due to any unusual market. There was a slight depression caused by war conditions two years ago, but beginning last October the business resumed a normal status.

### Big Change in Six Years.

Six years ago Atlanta was only a small country market for cattle and hogs. Today it is recognized in the west and middle west, where there is a demand for southern-raised stock. One reason the western dealers want cattle from the south, for which Atlanta is the distributing point, is that the cattle raised in this section are smaller and the cuts easier to handle than are those from the large steers weighing over 1,500 pounds.

Five years ago two carloads, or fifty head, a week of cattle glutted the market. Today from 25 to 30 carloads a week are received and the market not over-supplied.

More than 90 per cent of the cattle handled through Atlanta comes from points in Georgia. Two years ago the market was almost wholly dependent upon Tennessee and other states. Cattle still comes from Tennessee, Florida and Alabama to Atlanta, and the Georgia products are shipped to Clarkston, New Orleans, Moultrie, Louisville, Milledgeville, Cincinnati and St. Louis. In the spring it is shipped

from this city to as far as Oklahoma City and Chicago.

The cattle handled here are raised principally by small farmers, and the output has been greatly increased in Georgia by the eradication of the cow-tick.

It is estimated that there will be handled through Atlanta stock yards over 45,000 head during the present year.

This is a brief summary of what has now become one of the most important industries in Atlanta and one of the largest in the whole south.

### What the Stock Yards Show.

A visit to the stock yards cannot fail to impress upon anyone that this section, with Atlanta as the chief distributing point, will soon be to the south what Chicago is to the west. The entire year round the stockmen are busy receiving and shipping cattle and hogs, and when it is considered that this has all developed within four or five years the future presents a very assuring prospect to all who are interested in the material resources of the south.

William H. White, president of the White Provision company, is most optimistic.

"I can hardly find words with which to express my views on the outlook," he said to a representative of The Constitution. "I have always had great faith in the stock industry for this section, but the results of the past five years have exceeded even my expectations. In 1906 we organized the White Provision company and were dubious about the supply. In 1910 our plant was ready for operation, and still we were not satisfied with the outlook for hogs in this section. That was five years ago, and today just see to what proportions the business has grown. Why, only last week there was shipped to us four carloads of hogs from Reynolds and Fort Valley in this state. There were 470 of the very finest hogs weighing 74,852 pounds. The price that those four carloads netted to the shippers was nearly \$5,000. Talk about cotton, why hogs like that are as good as gold coin.

### What One Man Is Doing.

"One man in Fort Valley, A. J. Evans, who is a banker, raises hogs and cattle, and he has interested his neighbors to such an extent that they are all engaging in the business and to a big profit. Mr. Evans was feeding on one place over 1,000 steers last year. That looks like the west, doesn't it?"

"There were killed in this section last year over 30,000 hogs and we will kill several thousands more than that this year. You see, hogs are now killed in Atlanta during the months of June, July and August, just the same as in the winter. The business demands it, and we are going into the killing as they do in Chicago.

"Now, when it comes to cattle, Georgia will soon lead in that industry if the present indications are not deceptive. The live stock receipts in Atlanta are five times greater than they were five or six years ago. And the

best thing about this is that we do not any longer have to depend upon Tennessee for our cattle. We are raising them right here in our own great state.

### Outlook for This Year.

"We expect to receive through the Atlanta market this year over 30,000 head of cattle, and we are going to kill over 40,000 hogs.

"A few years ago the newspapers were preaching to the farmers of Georgia to 'wake up' and go to raising cattle and hogs. They have waked up, and if they will keep awake there is no reason why Georgia should not be the foremost state in the union for cattle and hogs. We have the grazing lands and we know now that we can find the market. Some of the farmers are a little too free about feeding their hogs with peanuts. They ought to stop that, as it makes the meat too flabby and greasy."

Mr. White escorted the reporter over his big packing house plant, located on the Howell Mill road. It is an inspiration to everyone who feels an interest in the growth of the city and the prosperity of the south.

If there is any citizen of Atlanta who thinks the times are not good, or any visitor to the city who wants to see for himself how the cattle industry is growing in the south, he has but to visit the stock yards and the packing house, hear some of the captains of industry talk, and he will go away firmly convinced that, war or no war, good times have come, and come to stay.

WADE THINKS VERY  
LITTLE OF NEGRO'S  
BOLL WEEVIL OIL

Says Other Conditions on  
John McDuffie Farm Are  
Responsible For Good  
Cotton Crop

After investigating the cotton crop of John McDuffie, a colored farmer living on the Upper Wetumpka Road eight miles from the city, Commissioner Wade submitted the following report:

The crop is very fine for the season, having a half crop of nearly matured bolls and is blooming and fruiting rapidly. A few boll weevil grubs can be found, but not as many as are found on cotton near by.

The soil is open sandy land with good drainage and absorbs excessive moisture readily. The variety of cotton planted is Half and Half mixed with King, both early maturing varieties, and appears to have been planted early. The fertilizer used was stable manure. From the information obtained, the first crop of weevils appearing on the cotton was picked off and destroyed. The punctured squares were picked up prior to the rain-storm. A pole with a croker sack attached to the ends and fastened to the plow has been run over the cotton reaching two rows at a time so as

to brush the tops of the cotton. The sacks were saturated with a mixture of crude oil, tar and camphor gum and has been dragged over the cotton by hand when too wet to plow.

### Ideal Soil.

Summary—The soil being light, porous and sandy, capable of taking care of much moisture and absorbing much heat when dry, is, with the aid of stable manure, capable of producing an early prolific crop and is an ideal soil for fighting the weevil with frequent plowing and brushing the weevils off into the hot mulch.

The fact that the variety planted is early maturing and appears to have been planted early; that the weevils were hand picked and many infested squares picked up during the early stages of the crop; also that the cotton was continuously agitated with a pole and dragging of the sacks, constitute the modern principles used in combating boll weevils and is naturally expected to produce a good crop on soils of this type. It is to be remembered that the season was very favorable for fighting the weevil up to July 5th, and especially on soils of this kind.

As to the crude oil, tar and camphor, this mixture does not contain any deadly poison except to the plants, where used excessively. There could be put one possible theory and that is a disagreeable odor, which theory has been exploded thousands of times by farmers in the West.

I do not consider that the splendid crop of McDuffie is due to this remedy, but to the soil type, early variety of cotton and advantageous cultivation. I am quite sure that dragging the pole and the sacks over the cotton was advantageous and would have been equally advantageous without the mixture.

### Not the Remedy.

I do not want to discourage this splendid colored farmer, but would rather compliment him on his excellent crop, which, in my opinion, is the result of other conditions already mentioned and not to any extent due to the effects of the remedy in question.

I would further advise that it is not impossible for us to error, and if any one wishes to try this remedy they should not hesitate to do so. The pole and the sacks will do some good by agitating the cotton as you cultivate. If it takes a "Golden Calf" or a "Brazen Serpent" through faith of which good is accomplished, then let us have the calf, the snake and success.

NEGROES ORGANIZE  
ARMY TO DESTROY  
THE BOLL WEEVIL

Blacks of Dallas County  
Never Leave Home Now  
Without Their Bottle of

## Kerosine

advertiser  
6-13-16  
Selma Bureau of  
The Advertiser,  
J. P. Welch, Corr.

Every negro in the neighborhood of Tyler, South Dallas county, has appointed himself a soldier in the army of defense against Bill Boll Weevil, and in the hip pocket of most of the negroes may be found a bottle of kerosene, the execution chamber for the pest.

This is the information brought to Selma by County Commissioner J. A. Minter of Tyler, who says that cotton is looking well, despite the infestation of the weevil. This year, he says, the farmers began picking early, and now have a shade the best of the pests. With favorable weather conditions, he says, there will be a good yield.

### Twelve Births.

The report on health conditions during the month of May shows that there were twelve white births and eleven white deaths; ninety-six negro births and fifty-five negro deaths. This report covers the city of Selma and Dallas county. Dr. Howard, county health officer, reports eleven cases of tuberculosis, eight of typhoid fever and five of pellagra.

In a determined effort to rid the city of negro women with no visible means of support, Councilman T. J. Rowell, acting as police judge, Monday morning stated from the bench that cases of vagrancy would receive little mercy from him while acting as judge.

### Decorate Selma.

A whole army of workmen will Tuesday night begin the work of decorating Selma for Wednesday, national Flag Day, and when Selmians awake Wednesday morning it will be to find the whole city in flags and bunting. The parade at 11 o'clock will be led by the local camp of Veterans and the exercises at the Academy of Music will be featured by glowing tributes to the men who wore the grey.

Two small coyotes, sent from Luling, Texas, have been added to Ed R. Jones' menagerie at his Lauderdale street stable, and he plans to make pets of them. The animals were sent to Mr. Jones by Aubrey Etheridge, a Selma boy.

### Returns Home.

Rabbi Isadore Isaacson of the local Jewish Temple this morning returned from Demopolis, where Sunday he confirmed a class of eleven at the Temple Benai Jeshurun. A number of Selmians made the trip to Demopolis to witness the exercises.

THE NEGRO, THE BOLL WEEVIL  
AND FARM MANAGEMENT

Success Under Weevil Conditions  
Calls for Good Farming, and This  
Means That the Negro Tenant Must  
Be Closely Supervised

THE United States Census Bureau in 1910 reported that Alabama had 262,901 farms, 103,929 of which were operated by the owners, 158,326 by tenants, and 646 by managers. Of the tenants, 93,309, 35.5 per cent, were Negroes.

Of the total number of farms, 58,754



were reported as comprising more than 100 acres. Of this number only 2,276 were reported as comprising between 500 and 1,000 acres, and only 822 were said to contain more than 1,000 acres. But this does not give any sort of correct idea of the number of so-called plantations in the state. A farm for census purposes is all the land which is directly farmed by one farmer, either by his own labor alone or with the assistance of his own family or hired employees. In other words, when a land-owner has one or more tenants, renters, crop-pers, or managers, the land operated by each is by the census considered as a farm. There is no attempt by the census to show how many of the tenants noted above are to be allotted to each landowner. Hence it is that for all practical purposes we have in Alabama a great many more large plantations than is shown by the records.

In 1910 this lack of data concerning our farms was not of so much interest from an economic standpoint. There was none of our area infested with boll weevil; now all but six counties are infested and all the counties where the Negro tenants predominate are at the worst period of the weevil's work. Therefore the question of farm management under boll weevil conditions and the relation of tenant farming to that problem are confronting us.

The very worst damage done by the weevil so far is admitted to have taken place in the Natchez, Miss., section, where business was demoralized, farms were depopulated, and land values were sent tumbling. Six counties along the Big River in that section, which produced 133,000 bales of cotton in a season before the weevil came, only produced 27,000 last year, notwithstanding that it has been there long enough for intelligent farmers to learn how to combat it. In these counties 80 per cent of the farmers are tenants, and practically all the tenants are Negroes.

One of the most striking illustrations of the difference between the recuperative capacity of white and Negro farmers may be drawn from the following comparison, using three parishes along the Mississippi River in Louisiana and three alongside of them but back from the river:

|                    | No. of Farms | No. of Negro Tenants |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| East Carroll ..... | 1,851        | 1,664                |
| Madison .....      | 1,783        | 1,612                |
| Tensas .....       | 2,897        | 2,660                |
| <b>Total .....</b> | <b>6,537</b> | <b>5,936</b>         |
| Franklin .....     | 1,881        | 754                  |
| Morehouse .....    | 3,059        | 2,177                |
| Richland .....     | 2,403        | 1,438                |
| <b>Total .....</b> | <b>7,343</b> | <b>4,414</b>         |

In the first group 90 per cent of all the farmers are Negro tenants; in

second 60 per cent are in that class. The first group in 1906, before weevil infestation, produced 69,000 bales of cotton, which dropped to 26,000 in 1909, and fell further to 21,000 in 1914. The second group produced 69,000 in 1906, 23,000 in 1909, and 53,000 in 1914. For fear that 1914 was not a fair year for comparison, we find that in 1913 the first group produced 24,000 and the second group 46,000.

At any rate there can be no questioning the fact that the Negro tenant farmer, under the long-followed custom of growing cotton, is in the least favorable condition to combat the weevil. The Negro is admittedly a creature of imitation, and in any attempt to change his method of farming he must be shown at first hand by an immediate supervisor.

Hence the conclusion that in those sections where the Negro farmer is most numerous, whether as tenant or hired farm laborer, the hope of future production lies in intelligent farm management, conducted personally by competent persons.

In the 262,901 farms in Alabama are invested 370 million dollars or \$1,400 per farm, about \$18 per acre, as valued by the census. Any landlord, therefore, who has a farm of 200 acres rented to tenants has given to their charge \$3,600 worth of property. No other business man would leave to the management of men not above the capacity of common laborers this amount of property, and yet thousands of farm owners in Alabama have for years left to unintelligent and irresponsible tenants from \$1,800 to \$18,000 worth of property without even an overseer.

They have been satisfied with rent, the amount of which has paid interest perhaps, but has not kept the property value up to standard. But with the weevil, even the rent is going to fail to come unless the tenants are shown how.

In the following table are given, for those counties in Alabama where the percentage of Negro tenants are greatest, the total number of farms, the number of Negro tenants, and the number of farm managers shown by the census of 1910:

| County           | Number Farms | Negro Tenants | Farm Managers |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Autauga .....    | 3,116        | 1,806         | 16            |
| Barbour .....    | 4,606        | 2,505         | 16            |
| Bullocks .....   | 4,726        | 3,889         | 12            |
| Chambers .....   | 5,126        | 2,601         | 14            |
| Dallas .....     | 8,182        | 6,981         | 15            |
| Greene .....     | 4,099        | 3,201         | 35            |
| Hale .....       | 4,510        | 3,016         | 31            |
| Lee .....        | 3,869        | 2,255         | 15            |
| Lowndes .....    | 6,436        | 5,386         | 11            |
| Macon .....      | 4,475        | 3,400         | 14            |
| Marengo .....    | 6,621        | 4,497         | 25            |
| Montgomery ..... | 6,484        | 5,243         | 23            |
| Perry .....      | 5,143        | 3,539         | 34            |
| Pickens .....    | 4,144        | 1,923         | 6             |
| Russell .....    | 2,986        | 2,191         | 7             |
| Sumter .....     | 4,624        | 3,497         | 21            |
| Wilcox .....     | 6,661        | 5,164         | 12            |

"OBSERVER."

## AMAZING AGRICULTURAL ADVANCE OF THE SOUTH

Its diversified farm products for 1915 four times as great in value as cotton, the total for all being \$3,600,000,000 of which \$2,850,000,000 was for diversified agricultural products.

(From Manufacturer's Record.)

In 1915 the gain in the value of all farm crops in the United States over 1914 was \$526,070,000.

Of this gain \$317,209,000, or a little over 60 per cent, was in the south, an amazing illustration of the increase in the diversification of southern agriculture.

The gain in the entire country, outside of the south, was \$208,861,000, or \$108,400,000 less than the gain in the south.

The percentage of increase for the south in 1915 over 1914 was 13.85 per cent.

The percentage of increase for the rest of the country in 1915 over 1914 was only 5.25 per cent.

Notwithstanding the great decrease in the value of the cotton crop last year, by virtue of war conditions, compared with the big crops and high prices for some years prior to the war, the rate of increase of the south's farm crops over the five-year average from 1909 to 1913 was 6.23 per cent.

Though the cotton crop last year was small and prices were lower than for some years prior to the war, the value of last year's farm crops in the south was \$153,000,000 greater than the average value for the five-year period from 1909 to 1913, both inclusive.

Notwithstanding the much lower value of last year's cotton crop compared with 1909 to 1913, while on the other hand the west had large grain crops with high prices due to the phenomenal European demand for foodstuffs, the value of the south's farm crops for 1915 was \$2,607,349,000 as compared with \$4,181,556,000 for the rest of the country. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the value of last year's cotton crop, not including seed, at \$580,000,000. Counting the value of the seed, we believe the crop may be safely estimated at \$750,000,000. Taking an estimate of \$750,000,000 as the value of the cotton crop, including seed, this would leave as the value of other crops \$1,957,000,000, or, in other words, the value of diversified crops was considerably more than two and one-half times as great as the value of the cotton crop and nearly twice as great as the most valuable cotton crop ever produced by the south.

It must be borne in mind that these figures relate to farm crops and not to all agricultural products, for they do not include the value of animal products.

The department of agriculture estimates the total value of animal products for the United States in 1915 at \$3,849,000,000, but does not attempt to make an estimate as to the value by states.

As the south has almost exactly one-third of the total number of live stock in the United States, it is reasonable to estimate the value of the animal products of this section as 30 per cent of the total for the whole country. This would make the total for the south \$1,054,000,000. Taking the round figure of \$1,000,000,000 and adding it to the value of farm crops, we have a total of \$3,600,000,000 as the value of all agricultural products of the south last year, and of this only about \$750,000,000 was represented by cotton.

Even if we were to take the strictly cotton-growing states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma, it would be found that the value of farm products other than cotton is very much greater than the value of their cotton crops, whereas, when we include the non-cotton-producing states, such as Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Missouri, we get the strikingly important fact which cannot be too often reiterated and emphasized that the value of diversified farm products of the south last year was \$2,850,000,000 against \$750,000,000 for cotton. Cotton, there-

fore, comprised but little more than one-fifth of the total agricultural products of \$3,600,000,000 of the south, and the other products were nearly four times as great in value as the cotton crop.

The estimated crop values of the southern states for 1915, 1914 and the five-year average between 1909 and 1913 was as follows:

### Estimated Aggregate Crop Values for Southern States.

| State                                  | 1915.                  | 1914.                  | 1909-1913, 5-year average. |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alabama .....                          | \$160,371,000          | \$152,340,000          | \$177,289,000              |
| Arkansas .....                         | 145,340,000            | 112,168,000            | 132,714,000                |
| Florida .....                          | 43,488,000             | 47,323,000             | 42,400,000                 |
| Georgia .....                          | 233,506,000            | 198,932,000            | 241,935,000                |
| Kentucky .....                         | 152,007,000            | 144,299,000            | 139,980,000                |
| Louisiana .....                        | 114,584,000            | 104,463,000            | 97,173,000                 |
| Maryland .....                         | 55,082,000             | 59,574,000             | 47,944,000                 |
| Mississippi .....                      | 149,690,000            | 128,605,000            | 160,801,000                |
| Missouri .....                         | 251,518,000            | 227,036,000            | 221,987,000                |
| North Carolina .....                   | 202,079,000            | 173,497,000            | 175,633,000                |
| Oklahoma .....                         | 173,680,000            | 159,713,000            | 140,021,000                |
| South Carolina .....                   | 150,940,000            | 131,653,000            | 158,338,000                |
| Tennessee .....                        | 146,362,000            | 138,255,000            | 140,504,000                |
| Texas .....                            | 407,040,000            | 351,628,000            | 410,640,000                |
| Virginia .....                         | 152,717,000            | 104,218,000            | 115,286,000                |
| West Virginia .....                    | 68,945,000             | 56,430,000             | 51,530,000                 |
| <b>Total for the South .....</b>       | <b>\$2,607,349,000</b> | <b>\$2,290,140,000</b> | <b>\$2,454,255,000</b>     |
| <b>Total for rest of country .....</b> | <b>\$4,181,556,000</b> | <b>\$3,972,695,000</b> | <b>\$3,458,072,000</b>     |
| <b>Total for United States .....</b>   | <b>\$6,788,905,000</b> | <b>\$6,262,835,000</b> | <b>\$5,912,327,000</b>     |

The percentage of increase for the south in 1915 over 1914 was 13.85 per cent.

The percentage of increase for rest of country in 1915 over 1914 was 5.25 per cent.

Some very striking facts are brought out by comparing the value of farm crops in some of the southern states with eastern and western states.

For instance, the value of Georgia's farm crops, last year, of \$233,506,000 was more than \$1,000,000 in excess of the value of Pennsylvania's, and was \$32,000,000 in excess of the value of Michigan's, \$54,000,000 in excess of the value of Wisconsin's, nearly \$13,000,000 in excess of the value of North Dakota's and \$66,000,000 in excess of South Dakota's.

Kansas, with all of its wonderful agricultural prosperity, exceeded the value of Georgia's farm crops by only \$29,000,000.

California fell \$21,000,000 behind Georgia in the value of its farm crops, and was only \$10,000,000 ahead of North Carolina, which had crop values of \$202,000,000 against \$212,000,000 for California.

These statistics of comparison of southern states with other states open up such a wide avenue for study and investigation that it may be worth while presenting the value of all crops by states for the entire country that our readers may have the chance of picking out for themselves many interesting facts. These values were as follows:

### Estimated Value of All Crops.

| State.              | 1915.       | State.              | 1915.           |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Maine .....         | \$6,306,000 | N. Dakota .....     | \$230,892,000   |
| N. Hampshire .....  | 19,443,000  | S. Dakota .....     | 167,398,000     |
| Vermont .....       | 39,262,000  | Nebraska .....      | 245,830,000     |
| Massachusetts ..... | 46,183,000  | Kansas .....        | 262,188,000     |
| Rhode Island .....  | 5,102,000   | Kentucky .....      | 152,007,000     |
| Connecticut .....   | 50,832,000  | Tennessee .....     | 146,362,000     |
| New York .....      | 237,724,000 | Alabama .....       | 160,371,000     |
| New Jersey .....    | 58,360,000  | Mississippi .....   | 149,690,000     |
| Pennsylvania .....  | 232,340,000 | Louisiana .....     | 114,584,000     |
| Delaware .....      | 12,362,000  | Texas .....         | 407,040,000     |
| Maryland .....      | 55,082,000  | Oklahoma .....      | 173,680,000     |
| Virginia .....      | 152,717,000 | Arkansas .....      | 145,340,000     |
| West Virginia ..... | 68,945,000  | Montana .....       | 76,043,000      |
| N. Carolina .....   | 202,079,000 | Wyoming .....       | 24,693,000      |
| S. Carolina .....   | 150,940,000 | Colorado .....      | 71,656,000      |
| Georgia .....       | 233,506,000 | New Mexico .....    | 15,633,000      |
| Florida .....       | 43,488,000  | Arizona .....       | 10,262,000      |
| Ohio .....          | 260,680,000 | Utah .....          | 26,885,000      |
| Indiana .....       | 224,066,000 | Nevada .....        | 12,988,000      |
| Illinois .....      | 408,110,000 | Idaho .....         | 48,735,000      |
| Michigan .....      | 200,646,000 | Washington .....    | 92,609,000      |
| Wisconsin .....     | 179,091,000 | Oregon .....        | 70,679,000      |
| Minnesota .....     | 241,897,000 | California .....    | 212,283,000     |
| Iowa .....          | 324,398,000 |                     |                 |
| Missouri .....      | 251,518,000 | United States ..... | \$6,788,905,000 |

It may also be interesting to compare the value of all crops for 1909 and 1915 for the southern states. The figures are as follows:

### Value of Farm Crops.

| States          | 1909.         | 1915.         |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Alabama .....   | \$144,287,000 | \$160,371,000 |
| Arkansas .....  | 119,419,000   | 145,340,000   |
| Florida .....   | 36,142,000    | 43,488,000    |
| Georgia .....   | 226,595,000   | 233,506,000   |
| Kentucky .....  | 138,973,000   | 152,007,000   |
| Louisiana ..... | 77,336,000    | 114,584,000   |
| Maryland .....  | 43,920,000    | 55,082,000    |

ton, while it enormously enhanced the price of western wheat and corn and resulted in a great increase in the acreage devoted to wheat, it is an amazing fact that the increase in crop values between 1909 and 1915 was 22.2 per cent in the south and only 24.7 per cent in the rest of the country, whereas we might have expected the rest of the country to make almost twice as good a showing as the south.

The gain in value of farm crops in 1915 in the United States over 1909 was \$1,302,000,000, of which \$474,623,000, or 36.4 per cent, was in the south. When it is remembered that the war gave almost a staggering blow to the south's cot-



But all agriculture must have labor; it is the first and prime requisite. A Connecticut farmer the other day in the New York Times said that both himself and some of his farm neighbors had lost recently their total labor to the ammunition and industrial plants; and that their farms had come to a complete stop. A New Jersey farmer told me several years ago that the only labor he could get was by going to the immigration office in New York and hiring foreigners, ignorant of his line of work and ignorant of his language, and bringing them to his farm. The greatest handicap possible on a farm is either the lack of

The emigration agents who have largely produced this exodus of negroes northward have come into Georgia largely wherever lynchings have happened, and in these lynch counties they told the negroes that the whites intended to exterminate them. Now, however untrue this may be, this argument served its purpose and had its effect for in contiguous counties where there had been no lynchings there was no exodus. Lynchings, therefore, we see

JUDGE CLAYTON AT  
DOTHAN DENOUNCES  
PEONAGE PRACTICE

*Constitution*  
Enterprise's Police Chief  
*Wroughton*  
on Trial on Charge—  
*admitted*  
Some Sentences Pro

3/29/16

Augusta, Ga.

# JUDGE CLAYTON AT DOTHAN DENOUNCES PEONAGE PRACTICE

*Constitution*  
Enterprise's Police Chief  
*re-arrested*  
on Trial on Charge  
*adultery*  
Some Sentences Pro

29/116

All of the parties receiving threatening letters reside in an area of ten or twelve miles from the corner of Clarke, Oglethorpe and Oconee counties, between Athens and Lexington, and around Watkinsville.

At least six of these threatening letters—none of them signed, several of them evidently written by the same hand, and two signed "we mean business"—has been turned over to the United States federal authorities.

## Grain Will Be Re-sacked and Distributed to Needy



postoffice inspectors, who will begin tomorrow to work the cases out.

This is the first time such threats have ever been made in this section.

The population of the rural section alluded to is largely colored and since the war the colored farmers have never given the white people any trouble. The mystery of the warnings is the lack of any even suspected cause.

## TENANT FARMERS IN

### ALABAMA NEED HELP

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Measures are being taken for the immediate relief of the tenant farmers of Alabama, nearly all of whom are Negroes, who are suffering great hardships as a result of severe summer storms and the boll weevil epidemic which completely devastated the cotton crops. When not washed away by the flood the cotton has been destroyed by the boll weevil.

Appeals have been sent to various northern cities by the principal of the Armstrong Agricultural and Industrial Institute at West Butler, Ala., in which the need of the suffering tenant farmers is explained, and a request made for assistance. An extract from this appeal read as follows:

"Colored farmers and their families are suffering most. It is impossible for one who has not visited the black belt section since the floods subsided to conceive of the daily sufferings of the people. Many of them can't get bread to eat. Many have died already from disease brought on by eating unwholesome food, some are starving now. The government has provided a little work for a limited number, but there are thousands of colored people who will starve if some aid is not rendered. A few hundred dollars, with clothing for the women and children, would do much toward relieving the condition of these people."

The white women of Alabama have begun a movement to relieve conditions in the state, led by Mrs. G. M. Mathis, of Gadsden. Mrs. Mathis declares that many of the people are actually starving and it is her belief that much of the labor exodus to the north has been caused by this suffering.

Food and clothing are needed, or money to purchase same. Contributions may be sent to Arthur W. Mitchell, principal Armstrong Institute, West Butler, Ala.; to Tuskegee Institute, Ala., or to Chas. Banks, Mound Bayou, Miss., designating the purpose.

## NIGHT RIDERS ARE SENT TO PRISON

Chicago Defender 11/29/16  
Men Who Terrorized Blacks Given Jail Terms—Five Years for Some—Were Terror to the Farmers.

New Madrid, Mo., Jan. 19.—Six men pleaded guilty to charges of participation

in the recent night rider outrages and two others were tried and found guilty on similar charges here yesterday, and all were sentenced to the penitentiary for terms of from two to five years.

The trial of 59 other men, similarly charged, who are being tried separately, was resumed today. Walter Willody, reputed leader of a band of 29, who several months ago fought a battle with six detectives in a corn field near Clarksville, Mo., demanded a jury trial, was found guilty and received the heaviest sentence, five years.

The so-called "night riders" are secret bands of dissatisfied farm laborers and tenants, who in spasmodic midnight raids for more than a year have terrorized landowners and merchants in an attempt to force them to increase wages, decrease rents, lower the price of food supplies and not to rent to any race people. Murder, arson, whippings and numerous other crimes have been attributed to their activities. They burnt barns of successful race farmers and pillaged their farms.

## PASTE IN YOUR HATS!

Good People—Advertisement

What do you say to including among your obligatory Christmas gifts bread and meat for the hungry negro in the country? What do you say to agreeing that one of the gifts you can't escape giving this year is a basket containing one sack of meal, one piece of side meat, one can of molasses, one sack of sweet potatoes?

Suppose you assume that you are simply obliged to take your auto or your friend plus his auto and carry this basket out over one of these brown, bleak country roads till you find "the least of these" whom the Master classes as Himself in receiving your mercies.

It's a safe bet that you will find what you are looking for. Some of these brethren of the Master's are catching rabbits as a means of sustenance, some of them are beating the woods for wild nuts to barter for the price of meal, some are shivering over stick fires all night because they have not the bed-clothes to lie under.

We know that the charities of Montgomery are for the city poor, and chiefly for the whites.

We know that the country gives not one dollar to help the poor except those in the almshouse.

We know that the cotton crop has failed, and that the landless, pest-ridden country negro is facing hunger and cold in dazed and stunned ignorance.

What are we going to do about it?

FRIEND OF THE POOR

White Man and Negro Charged With Acting Whitecappers' Role

MERIDIAN, MISS., May 11.—Leslie Harwell, a white man and Udell Abney, a negro, charged with white capping were bound over to the grand jury Wednesday afternoon by Justice McGraw to await the action of the grand jury. Harwell made bond and was released.

It is alleged that Harwell and Abney posted notices and placards on and near the negroes' homes on the place of W. B. Whitaker, reading "Read negro and run; if you can't run, run anyhow, or be blown up."

Mr. Whitaker said that there was a general exodus of his negro hands, who were frightened by the placards.

## TOUCHING APPEAL FOR "HUNGRY NEGRO" PUT BEFORE BOARD

County Commissioners

Told That There Is "No

Charity That Includes

The Negro"

12-12-16

An appeal for assistance for "the hungry negro out in the country," whose everything has been destroyed by the boll weevil and floods, was made to the Montgomery County board of revenue Monday by Miss Nimmo Green. She was informed that the law prohibited the board from donating any funds for charity except for the alms house.

"It's a shame, on our boasted civilization that we cannot, under the law, give a person a sack of meal outside of the almshouse," President R. H. Jones, of the board told her.

"We'll see if we can't do it some other way," declared Miss Green, as she departed after thanking the board for their courtesies.

No Charity for Negro.

Miss Green desired to know of the board if anyone was trying to reach "the hungry negro in the country," whose crops have been devastated and who are without means of sustenance. She declared she has found no charity that includes the hungry negro, and insisted that they are in dire need of something to eat.

"There are negroes out there who are in a state of starvation," she said, arousing the sympathy of every member of the revenue body. She also stated that she had appealed to Chief of Police Henry D. Long, but that he did not understand the charity fund was intended for negroes, as no negroes contribute to the fund.

Miss Green was accompanied before the board by Mrs. Laura Stern, an earnest charity worker of Montgomery.

## LOWER PEACH TREE NEGROES LOOK FOR "GOV'MENT BOAT"

Many Refuse to Work, Expecting the U. S. Free

Supplies 7-27-16

(Special to The Advertiser.)

LOWER PEACH TREE, ALA., July 26.—The report that the government is to aid the farmer who has lost his crop in the floods, has somewhat demoralized the negroes. They are fully expecting a "government boat" to arrive from Mobile the latter part of

the week, bringing provisions and supplies.

Some entertain an idea that it is necessary to obtain some sort of paper in order to get the supplies. They are waiting.

Near Coal Bluff, up the river, one of the flooded planters turned to timbering. He called for sawyers, but he was informed by the enforced idlers that they didn't have to work, they were waiting for the "government boat." Some of them, however, are hunting work, and doing what is possible on the farm until the weather clears.

Most of the land owners have told tenants to find work of any kind, anywhere. One man dished the last corn to his negro tenants and told them to get out and get bread to take its place. Farmers are blue everywhere, destruction on every hand, but there is still plenty of optimism afloat and people are doing what their hands find to do, whistling at it and looking for "the silver lining" behind the dripping clouds.

Advertiser

Charleston, S. C.

## The Negro and the Boll Weevil.

The statement in an article from McCormick, published in The News and Courier yesterday, that at a boll weevil meeting held at Mount Carmel, in McCormick County, a few days ago a large attendance being noted, "many negro land owners were present and showed great interest in the discussions," is especially gratifying. We hope that it is an index to a like interest on the part of negro farmers in the boll weevil campaign in all the counties where the campaign is to be waged.

According to the census figures for 1910 there were in South Carolina 75,800 white farmers and 95,330 colored farmers. There were 82,179 white farm laborers and 253,605 colored farm laborers. No agricultural movement in this State can prosper which does not take the negro into account. Of course a great many of the negroes are working under the immediate supervision of white men who will direct them what to plant and how to cultivate their crops. There are many others, however, who have no such reliance and who, once they are driven from cotton, a crop with which they are familiar, will be in a bad fix unless they get the right sort of help. There are many others, tens of thousands of them, who have depended on what they were able to make through working out on the farms of others. With a big acreage in cotton they were sure of employment, certain of being able to make enough to live on. With cotton gone, or at least cut a third, say, of the amount cultivated at present, what is to become of these people?

Under present conditions the bigger a negro's family the more desirable he is considered as a tenant; but this is true only because the women and children of the family are useful in a cultivation and gathering of the cotton crop. Cotton has to be hoed in a hurry and it has to be gathered in a hurry. Will these women and children be able to find ready employment on the farm under the new conditions soon to be created? If not, what is to become of them? How will they be supported if they stay on the farm? Where will they go if they leave it?

No Such Foolishness Here  
The chances are that those notices to Negroes to leave this section of the state were in the nature of a joke or a bluff. But if they were not of that nature, if the men who posted them were really in earnest, they might as well learn at once that this section of Georgia is not going to put up with any law violation of this kind. Savannah

If there are Negroes in this section who are not behaving themselves, there are laws under which they can be reached and made to behave. If the Negroes are behaving themselves, there are likewise laws to properly protect them as long as they do behave.

This section of Georgia is not going to have any night riding business. We do not believe that any such thing has ever been contemplated, but if such has been contemplated, it would be a good thing for those who are contemplating it to stop and consider a moment or two and realize that the law is going to be enforced in this part of Georgia.—Athens Banner.

## TENNESSEE FARMERS HELD FOR PEONAGE

Memphis, Tenn.—Frank Chambers and his two sons, Russell and Ben, white farmers of Fayette county, were brought to Memphis by Federal officers, charged with peonage. It is alleged that the men kept colored tenants from leaving their plantation, and the charges also involve conscienceless debauchery of young Negro girls by the same white men and their friends. New York Age

United States District Attorney Fisher caused the arrests, and United States Commissioner George H. Poole will hold the men in \$2,500 bail. There are twelve witnesses for the government.



# Agriculture - 1916

## Labor Conditions

### Promoting Home-ownership as a Paramount Issue

**T**HE new Governor of North Carolina has declared, "The nearest and dearest object of my administration will be to convert the tenants of North Carolina into landlords." The Governor of South Carolina and the Governor of Texas have made similar declarations. Just at this time, this is indeed about the worthiest object that any Southern Governor or Legislature could adopt as a "paramount issue." The growth of tenancy and absentee-landlordism is the most serious menace to the future rural civilization of the South. In every Southern state except Florida and Virginia, the percentage of tenancy is increasing alarmingly, and already in Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma from one-half to two-thirds of the farmers do not own the land they till. Here are the figures showing the steady, increasing growth of tenancy among us—a condition that sometimes seems to portend here in free America the development of that landlord and peasant population characteristic of the more backward countries of Europe:

PERCENTAGE OF FARMERS WHO WERE TENANTS

|                | 1880 | 1890 | 1900 | 1910 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|
| United States  | 25.6 | 28.4 | 35.3 | 37.0 |
| Virginia       | 29.5 | 26.9 | 30.7 | 26.5 |
| North Carolina | 33.5 | 34.1 | 41.4 | 48.3 |
| South Carolina | 50.3 | 55.3 | 61.1 | 63.0 |
| Georgia        | 44.9 | 53.6 | 59.9 | 65.6 |
| Florida        | 30.9 | 23.6 | 26.5 | 26.7 |
| Alabama        | 46.8 | 48.6 | 57.7 | 60.2 |
| Mississippi    | 43.8 | 52.8 | 62.4 | 66.1 |
| Tennessee      | 34.5 | 30.8 | 40.6 | 41.1 |
| Arkansas       | 30.9 | 32.1 | 45.4 | 50.0 |
| Louisiana      | 35.2 | 44.4 | 58.0 | 55.3 |
| Texas          | 37.6 | 41.9 | 49.7 | 52.6 |
| Oklahoma       |      | 7    | 43.8 | 54.8 |

#### POOR AND SUFFERING NEGROES.

Editor The Advertiser: 12-18-16  
A touching appeal comes from the country this morning in behalf of the poor negroes.

In the cities we are liable to confine our charities to those in the city limits.

In the country it is supposed there is little want for food. That ought to be the case and usually is, but this is an exceptional year. The floods prevented the harvesting of food crops. The people in the Black Belt of Alabama have an opportunity now, in this hard year and bitter weather to show their interest in the negro race.

Most of our fathers and mothers, in the long ago, cared tenderly for them when they were sick or in distress. Many fathers and mothers of today were nursed by black mam-mies and many homes, where there are children, the same mam-mies are caring for the second and third generation of white children.

Throughout the four years of the civil war the slaves of the South, though they knew well if the Confederacy succeeded it meant their continued servitude, were faithful to the unprotected wives and children of their masters, who were away in the army. Scores of these old slaves are with us today. Their descendants, by the thousands, are about us. For the sake of their parents and for hu-

manity's sake, we should help them in this time of their suffering.

What though some of them are ungrateful and unworthy! Such persons will be found in every race. Let the good women searchers continue their much needed work and a systematic effort be made to feed and clothe the destitute blacks in the country. In a little while, farm work will open up, when they can begin to earn a living for themselves.

W. B. CRUMPTON.

#### NEWS TRIBUNE

Detroit, Mich.

#### PEONAGE.

Those who know economic conditions in the south realize that the civil war was merely a step toward the abolition of negro slavery. It prevented the actual ownership of human bodies, and was well worth the terrible price paid for it, yet it left the south still dependent, to a very great extent, on negro labor and left the negro struggling under burdens which would crush the weaker members of any race into degradation. Out of the negro problem has grown the national disgrace of lynching and late outbreaks have led "The Crisis," a magazine devoted to the interests of negroes, to present a clear explanation of the prevalence of this form of savagery.

There are three counties in Georgia with a negro population of 31,000 and 18,000 white inhabitants. The negroes perform the bulk of toil on plantations for wages which barely maintain them and are held to their tasks by a severe system of discipline. The white minority holds the whip hand by force. The slightest affront or injury visited upon a white man by a negro is followed by swift and violent retaliation. Lynch law is a necessary accompaniment of peonage.

The notoriety acquired by Georgia, and by certain other sections of the south, does not imply a low level of community morals, nor that a type of white man lost to all sense of justice and mercy dominates public opinion. Murderous outlawry, unpunished by the state, is merely a form of the sure penalty arising from any system which is founded on oppression.

#### THREE GEORGIANS

#### MUST SERVE TERMS

#### ON PEONAGE CHARGE

Washington, April 10.—The supreme court today declined to review the conviction of Franklin Huff, Harry Putnam and Charley Adams, of Spalding county, Georgia, on charges of conspiracy to unlawfully arrest one John Westmoreland with the intent to hold him to a condition of peonage.

**A**N INTERESTING bulletin recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture deals with "Farm Systems of Farming in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta." The following, among others, are important conclusions reached: The average rate of interest received by the landlord from share croppers, tenants working on halves, was 13.6 per cent; from share tenants, or tenants working on the third-and-fourth basis, 11.8 per cent; and from cash renters, 6.6 per cent. Dealing as it does with conditions that are typical of a large part of the South, this bulletin should be of interest to many of our readers, both landlords and tenants. Copies may be had at five cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

#### Night Riders in Texas.

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 14.—Night riders have appeared in west Texas warning landlords to dismiss their negro tenants and negro cotton pickers. A stated warning to this effect was left under the door of every business house in Haskell Tuesday night, according to advices received here today. The warning was signed "The White Renters' League." Many negroes were taken into west Texas this fall to gather the large cotton crop and the printed warning stated that it was feared that these negroes will be allowed to remain.

#### FLOOD SUFFERERS

#### WANT FEDERAL AID

Approximately 300 flood sufferers in Montgomery county have qualified for Federal aid, and will receive help from the Federal government, according to information from the office of H. P. Merrill, junior United States engineer for the Montgomery district.

The men who have qualified will be put to work on Montgomery county roads, starting probably Wednesday, this phase of the work being under the direction of the local county committee.

#### NEGROES NEED HELP

#### Destitution Reported in Lower Richland County.

Negroes residing in the lower section of Richland county need help, according to a report from the county committee to the central flood relief commission.

"The negroes in that section need work," said a member of the commission. "There is much sickness and medicine is also needed. The matter will be referred to the federal officers and it is probable that the negroes who lost heavily as a result of the recent floods will be given work rebuilding the roads in the swamps in the lower section of the county."